

THE ROSWELL GUIDE*
Compiled by Joan Pickering

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THE STORY

The time is 1999. Three 16 year old sophomores, attending Roswell High School, in Roswell, New Mexico, are more than what they seem. These three, Max Evans, Isabel Evans and Michael Guerin, are actually aliens from another planet. They do not know where they are from or who they really are. They awoke, at the age of six, in human form, inside incubator like pods. They have no idea when they arrived. They may have been part of the 1947 reported crash or part of an unreported crash in 1989. Max and Isabel found each other first. Wandering around naked in the desert outside Roswell, they eventually found Michael. Max and Isabel took to each other right away but Michael was less trusting and when a car approached he stepped away. Therefore, Diane and Phillip Evans only discovered Max and Isabel, whom they later adopted. Michael did not see Max and Isabel again for three years. They have learned over these last ten years that they have special abilities or powers that humans do not. They can manipulate molecular structure (change an item's color or shape, heal bones and tissue - which leaves a temporary silver hand print on the body, dissolve metal, unlock doors without keys, etc.), dreamwalk (visit people in their dreams), receive visions by holding objects connected to the vision, send telepathic visions to others of their own thoughts and use telekinesis (move objects with their minds); they do not all have the same proficiency with these powers. They do not know if their human appearance is natural or if their molecular structure was manipulated. They do know that they have the same emotions as humans and are going through the same confusing changes as human teenagers.

When Max witnesses the accidental shooting of Liz Parker at the Crashdown Café (a girl he has secretly loved since childhood), he instinctively goes to her aid, using his healing powers to remove all traces of the bullet and wound. Max' act of selflessness changes his, Isabel's and Michael's world forever and completely, as they now have to elude investigations by Sheriff Valenti and the FBI. When Liz asks Max why he risked so much to save her, his response "It was you." sets the tone for the whole series.

This is a love story but it also is a story about the journey of discovery. Max, Isabel and Michael are on a quest to discover their past and we, the audience, are invited along to watch as they learn who they are, where they are from and how to deal with their alienation as teenagers and as aliens.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Max Evans: (Jason Behr) Max is a natural leader, to whom the others turn for advice and guidance. He is very methodical and likes to think things through. He is a bright, conscientious and dedicated student. He has few, if any, friends besides Isabel and Michael, loves his parents, and is fairly content with his life in Roswell. He seems to be the most proficient with the aliens' special powers (he is the best at healing). He knows Liz is his soul mate but the uncertainties in his life (how long he will live, where he will live - will he have the opportunity to return to his home planet, can he consummate a relationship with a human, etc.) cause him to hesitate in involving her in his life, thinking it would be unfair to her.

Isabel Evans: (Katherine Heigl) Isabel has two sides to her personality which are polar opposites. To the outside world she is an elitist snob who hangs out only with the "in" crowd, wouldn't be caught dead doing a "service oriented" job and is only interested in the latest fashions. In private, she deeply loves her family (her parents, Max and Michael) and is a caring, loving individual who will stick by you through thick and thin. She is very bright and does well in school but would not be considered an overachiever. She would like to be a supermodel but her career placement profile says she should choose a care-giver field. She mainly uses her powers for recreational purposes and enjoys dreamwalking. When she walks into Alex' dream she learns how he feels about her and is pleasantly surprised. Isabel loved her life in Roswell and is very upset that her little world has been disrupted. She partially blames Liz for this disruption and, although she considers her an ally she has not yet bonded with her as a friend.

Michael Guerin: (Brendan Fehr) Michael is a loner; a rebel with a cause. He never had a trusting nature and being raised by an alcoholic, uncaring foster father (Hank) did not alleviate this problem. He is very impulsive and often acts without thinking things through. Michael hates his life in Roswell and is looking for any excuse to leave and find something better. Out of the three, he is the one who most wants to find a way home, wherever his “real” home may be. He wants Max and Isabel to join him but he will do it alone if he has to. Michael had no other friends besides Max and Isabel. When he meets Maria, he starts having feelings for a human that he never had before, which he finds confusing and unsettling. Michael desperately needs Maria’s approval but at the same time fears her ability to penetrate his stonewall facade. Although he is very bright, he is a very poor student. Of the three, Michael has the least control over his powers; they are very erratic and sometimes backfire. He has the most success with receiving visions when holding objects with a story to tell. Michael was emancipated and is now totally responsible for his own livelihood and his actions.

Liz Parker: (Shiri Appleby) Liz is similar to Max in that she is very methodical and likes to be in control of every situation. She keeps a journal in which she chronicles her daily life. She is an excellent student and hopes to be head of molecular biology research at Harvard someday. She lives above and works before and after school in the Crashdown Café, which is owned and operated by her parents and is the local hang-out. When Max saves her life and she learns his secret, her world starts to spiral out of control. Everything has changed but it also feels as if her life is just beginning and she wants Max to play a major part in her new life. She too knows that Max is her soul mate and is willing to wait for him to resolve his uncertainties.

Maria DeLuca: (Majandra Delfino) Liz Parker’s best friend and co-worker at the Crashdown Café and the second human to learn the aliens’ secret. Maria is funny, flaky and quirky and provides much of the comic relief for the show. Her solution for most problems involves herbs or some “new age” mysticism. Maria is a very passionate individual who is not afraid to speak her mind. Her relationship with Michael is a textbook case of opposites attracting. When they are together, sparks fly; both the bickering kind and the romantic. When Michael’s fears cause him to push her back she responds with an “I’m Teflon babe” attitude, as if the hurt just slides right off, which in reality it doesn’t. So, when Michael does something sweet and endearing, she once more gets “sucked into the alien abyss”.

Alex Whitman: (Colin Hanks) Best friend to both Liz and Maria and the last human to learn “the secret”. Alex is sweet, caring and funny (he also provides comic relief for the show) but might be considered a borderline nerd. His sense of humor and musical ability (plays guitar in his own alternative rock band) keep him from crossing that line but he’s not quite mature nor sophisticated enough to be part of the “in” crowd. He worships Isabel and is reveling in the fact that he is now part of her circle and hopes someday she will consider him as more than just a friend. Due to his interrogatory nature, his career placement profile indicates he should be a psychologist.

Jim Valenti: (William Sadler) Town sheriff. Jim is a dedicated, second generation, law-enforcement officer. His suspicions that Max is an alien jeopardize his reputation and his obsession with finding the truth consumes so much of his time that he has very little left for his son, Kyle. Jim is learning that he is following in the footsteps of his father in more ways than by just becoming the sheriff and it worries him. He also must come to terms with the fact that if he does find proof that Max is an alien, what then? Max is just a boy and has done no one any harm, why should he be persecuted? When Jim is not pursuing “the truth” he is romantically pursuing Amy DeLuca, whom he once arrested, many years ago, for civil disobedience during her hippie protester days because she was “cute”.

Kyle Valenti: (Nick Wechsler) Ex-boyfriend of Liz and son of the town sheriff. Kyle is an all American high school jock who would like to play left field for the Houston Astros but whose career placement profile says he should go into law enforcement. His life changes when he first loses Liz, then his father, to Max. Kyle was hurt and confused by Liz's sudden abandonment. He has old fashion values and saw himself as Liz's protector. Because of his father's interest in Max, Kyle also thought that Max was a danger to Liz and that he needed to come to her rescue. He is now trying to adjust to his new role of friend. Both Kyle's over-protectiveness and attempts at friendship have provided comic relief for the show.

Amy DeLuca: (Diane Farr) Many of Maria's new age philosophies come from her mother, Amy, a former hippie. Amy is a single mother who does many odd jobs to support herself and Maria. So far we have learned that she makes and sells alien cocktail stirrers, alien blow up dolls and pies, organizes alien take-down wrestling matches for the UFO conventions and sells herbs in her shop. Her romantic involvement with Sheriff Valenti is unsettling to her daughter Maria. Does he really care for Amy or is he just using her to find out what she knows about Max, Isabel and Michael. Amy has had many failed relationships in the past (including Maria's father) and Maria does not want to see her get hurt again.

Diane & Phillip Evans: (Mary Ellen Trainor & Garret M Brown) They found Max and Isabel, when they were six years old, wandering around the desert and later adopted them. Diane has seen Max do things that appear paranormal but when she asked him to explain his special abilities he became so upset she dropped the questioning. Phillip, a lawyer, assisted Michael in his emancipation.

Nancy & Jeffrey Parker: (Jo Anderson & John Doe) Parents of Liz and owners of the Crashdown Café. Like most parents of teenagers, they are feeling as though they are losing touch with their daughter as she spreads her wings and steps into womanhood and independence.

Jim Valenti Sr: (John Callum) Former sheriff of Roswell. His obsession with finding out the truth about the alleged UFO crash in 1947 eventually cost him his job and his family. He is currently living in a nursing home and his mind has a tendency to wander. Jim Jr had not visited his father in years but recent events have brought up memories of his past and he now has a fuller understanding of what his father went through and is more easily able to bond with him. With Jim Valenti Sr's help, Jim Valenti Jr is uncovering the truth of what happened in the past and learning that it is connected with the present.

River Dog: (Ned Romero) Elder Native American from the Mesaliko Reservation outside of town who, when he was just a boy, saved the life of another alien living in the area back in 1959. He called the alien Nasedo, which means visitor. He has not seen Nasedo since 1959 and, because he saw a man named Atherton die at the hands of Nasedo, he is uncertain whether his intentions are good or evil but he decides to help Max, Isabel and Michael find him anyway. He shows Max a message on a cave wall, left behind by Nasedo and, when Michael comes down with the same illness that almost killed Nasedo, River Dog heals him using the crystal rocks Nasedo also left behind.

Milton: (Steve Hytner) Owner of the UFO Center museum and Max' boss. Milton is a UFO/paranormal fanatic and has an archive of information on all things extraterrestrial (most of which he can recite off the top of his head). He dreams someday of meeting an alien face-to-face and has no idea he works beside one everyday. Milton provides a great deal of the comic relief on the show.

Kathleen Topolsky: (Julie Benz) Undercover FBI agent who posed as a Roswell High School guidance counselor to gather information about Max, Isabel and Michael. Her cover was blown by Sheriff Valenti and Alex Whitman.

Owen Blackwood: (Michael Horse) Town Deputy and Native American from the Mesaliko Reservation outside of town. (Note: not positive on characters name)

Hank: (Robert F Lyons) Michael's alcoholic foster father who only kept Michael around for the monthly check. He told the sheriff he was leaving town without Michael but was actually killed by Nasedo.

Nasedo: (various) Shapeshifting alien who was involved with the deaths of at least three people (James Atherton, Sheila Hubble, and Hank) if not more. Are his intentions good or evil? Does he hold the key to Max, Isabel's and Michael's past? Only time will tell.

SYNOPSIS - THE PILOT

Liz Parker is on the roof of the Crashdown Café, outside her bedroom window, writing in her journal that five days ago she died. Cut to the interior of the Crashdown Café where Liz and Maria DeLuca work as waitresses. Maria mentions to Liz that Max Evans is watching her again. Liz denies it but is pleased by the possibility, even though she is dating Kyle Valenti. Two of their customers start an argument, which escalates to the point where one pulls out a gun and the other makes a grab for it. In the struggle the gun goes off and Liz, in the line of fire, goes down. Max sees this and rushes to her aid, fighting off his friend, Michael Guerin's, attempts to stop him. He kneels down over Liz, blocking the view of the others in the Café. He tells Liz she needs to look at him and then he places his hand over the bleeding wound. While he is healing her he sees visions of her memories as a child. When he removes his hand the wound has healed. Max throws his car keys to Michael who runs out to get the jeep. Max then breaks a bottle of ketchup and pours it over Liz to hide the blood on her uniform. He asks her not to say anything and then runs out of the Café and into the waiting jeep. Liz is stunned as she watches him leave.

Liz explains to her father that she is fine, that she just fell and broke a bottle of ketchup. Larry, a tourist, points out to Sheriff Valenti - if Liz didn't get hit, then where's the bullet. Liz goes upstairs to her bedroom. Seeing the bullet hole in her uniform, she takes it off and puts it in her backpack, then notices in the mirror that there is a silver hand print on her stomach, right where Max put his hand over the entry wound.

The next day in biology class, the teacher asks her students to take a scraping from inside their cheek to examine under a microscope. Liz's lab partner, Max, panics and asks the teacher for a bathroom pass. Liz looks at her own cells and then gets curious. She takes a pencil that Max had in his mouth and removes the saliva to look at his cells under the microscope. The cells are not normal. After class, Liz catches up to Max and says she must talk with him. She confronts Max with the hand print and her knowledge of his cell structure. He admits that he is "not of this Earth". At first, he is relieved to finally get it off his chest but as she starts to leave he realizes he must convince her how important it is that she not tell anyone his secret and tells her "Now my life is in your hands."

Isabel Evans and Michael are having lunch with Max. Isabel is upset with Max for breaking their sacred pact by using his powers to heal Liz. She and Michael panic when they realize he has told Liz the truth. Michael thinks they should leave Roswell. Isabel is resistant to that solution because she doesn't want to leave her family and Max agrees they should wait. Michael points out he doesn't have anything holding him back since his foster father only keeps him around for the monthly check. Isabel agrees that they need a better plan than Max' of just acting normal if they want to keep from being picked up by some government agency to be poked, prodded and exterminated.

Liz has been avoiding Maria, who catches up with her in the girls' room, holds up Liz's order pad, covered in Liz's blood, and demands an explanation. Liz avoids the issue.

That evening Liz's boyfriend, Kyle, brings Liz home after their date and notices the silver hand print on Liz's stomach but she ignores his questioning look. Later, Max visits Liz. He mentions that when he healed her he felt a connection and got a rush of images and her feelings associated with them. He suggests they try to make the connection in reverse so she can see and feel his thoughts and memories. Liz is able to feel Max' loneliness; she sees when he and Isabel were found by Phillip and Diane Evans in the desert and when he was watching her as a child from a distance; she also sees herself through his eyes and, in his eyes, she is beautiful.

Liz and Maria's friend, Alex Whitman, confronts Liz with the information Maria told him about finding Liz's blood on Liz's order pad. She assures him that everything is fine.

Sheriff Valenti pulls Liz in for questioning. He shows her pictures of a corpse with no apparent cause of death except a silver hand print on it's chest. Liz notices that the file is dated November 16, 1959. The sheriff says Kyle saw a similar mark on her stomach; she denies it and he insists that she show him her stomach. The mark is gone but he admits that the mark faded on the corpse as well. He then asks her what she knows about Max Evans. She says she doesn't know him well and denies he was at the

Crashdown when the shooting occurred. The sheriff then returns her backpack saying someone turned it in. She now knows the sheriff has her uniform with the bullet hole and blood on it. Liz goes to find Max.

Sheriff Valenti presents his findings to FBI Agent Stevens, who dismisses his suspicions but keeps the evidence. The sheriff says he is not going to walk away from this and Agent Stevens reminds him that his father's obsession cost him his career. The sheriff says with this new evidence, he's not so sure his father was wrong.

Liz is concerned that these aliens may be killers, so she confronts Max and tells him that if he doesn't answer all her questions, she will tell Valenti all she knows. He tells her about waking up in incubation pods and that Isabel and Michael are also aliens. He demonstrates how they manipulate molecular structure by changing a clay bust in the art room from carved to smooth back to carved with a pass of his hand. He tells her that no one else knows their secret, not even his parents, because their lives depend on the secret not getting out. When she asks why he risked everything by healing her he responds "It was you." She tells him about the photo Valenti has from 1959. Max is incredulous. She also tells him that Kyle saw the hand print on her, that Valenti has her uniform and that Valenti suspects him. Max takes off.

At home Isabel is getting into her costume for the Crashdown Festival (an annual event celebrating the alleged 1947 crash of a spaceship in Roswell, NM) and Max tells her to forget the Festival, it's time to leave. They pick up Michael and plan their escape. Michael is excited that there is a 4th alien who may be able to tell them about who they are and where they are from. Isabel reminds him that the 4th alien may be a killer.

Maria confronts Liz about telling her the truth or she will go to Valenti with what she knows. Liz relents and Maria freaks out. Maria and Liz are driving in Maria's car and pass Max, Isabel and Michael in the jeep. They turn around and give chase and corner them in an alley. Liz tells them they shouldn't leave because it will make Valenti more suspicious. Max offers to turn himself in so Isabel and Michael can escape. They refuse to leave without him. Liz says she has a plan to divert Valenti's suspicions. Isabel wants to know her plan.

Liz asks Kyle to meet her at the Festival in half an hour. Michael wears the same costume as Kyle. The sheriff confronts Max at the Festival and asks if he was at the Crashdown the day of the shooting. Max admits he was but denies doing anything to Liz. The sheriff doesn't believe him and handcuffs him. When Max asks if the sheriff is going to read him his rights the sheriff says "Do you have any?" Isabel pretends to hit Maria with her car and Michael bends down over Maria and touches her, then takes off. The sheriff, with Max in tow, goes to see what the commotion is about and sees someone in an alien costume touch Maria and take off. He goes to Maria, makes sure she is OK, sees a silver hand print on her upper chest, touches the print, then chases after the suspect, who he temporarily loses in the crowd. When he spots him again, he grabs him, and turns him around. The suspect removes his mask and reveals that it is Kyle. The sheriff then notices he has silver paint on his fingers. Meanwhile, Michael ditches his costume in a portable toilet. The sheriff returns to Max and confronts him once again. Max denies knowing anything, saying he ran away when the gun went off. The sheriff removes the handcuffs but warns Max that this is not over. He intends to discover the truth.

Max, Isabel and Michael watch the "re-enactment" of the 1947 crash, with alien bodies burning in the debris. Max spots Liz and goes to her. He tells her he wishes they could be more than friends but he doesn't think it's safe because of their differences. Liz doesn't care about the safety issue but respects his decision. She then thanks him for saving her life.

Liz writes in her journal that 5 days ago she died but then an amazing thing happened, "I came to life."

SYNOPSIS - THE MORNING AFTER

Liz is wondering if Max is as sleepless as she over recent events. Cut to Max sleeping soundly until Michael makes a clumsy unannounced entry through Max' bedroom window. Michael can't sleep either and can't believe that Max can, knowing there is a 4th alien out there who could hold the key to their existence.

Sheriff Valenti has the only key to the 4th alien (the photo of the corpse with the silver hand print), so the next morning Michael goes to check out the security at the sheriff's office.

At the Crashdown Café, Maria points out that they know nothing about these aliens so why should they trust them. They could be green and slimy and use their powers to "poof us into oblivion". Liz warns Maria that she should not be referring to them as aliens in public so Maria switches to Czechoslovakians. Alex overhears their conversation about the Czechoslovakians and wants to know what they are talking about but they blow him off.

At school, Kathleen Topolsky, substitute geometry teacher, questions Max about Michael's whereabouts, since he's not in class. Liz is suspicious of Topolsky's interest. Maria fuels the fire by thinking she must be a spy. Maria wants to tell Alex about the aliens to get his input but Liz says no.

The FBI assigns Agent Hart to observe goings on at the sheriff's station and the sheriff tells him to leave.

Liz tells Maria she's no longer interested in dating Kyle and she doesn't think he considers their relationship serious. He indicates otherwise when he tries to get an explanation of why she was late meeting him at the Crashdown Festival. Liz blows him off then accidentally bumps into Topolsky and makes her drop the files she is carrying. While helping her pick up the files, Liz notices that one of them is for Michael. Liz goes to tell Michael about Topolsky's interest, meeting his foster father Hank in the process, who appears to be drunk in the middle of the day.

The sheriff calls the FBI for an explanation of why an agent was assigned to observe his station but they hang up on him. The sheriff pulls the file with the photo of the silver hand print and removes a key attached to the file and hides it in the cap to his thermos, which he places in his desk drawer.

Michael tries to use the ploy of selling candy for charity to get inside the sheriff's office but it doesn't work so he tries to convince Max and Isabel to help him break in. Isabel points out she likes her life and doesn't want to miss next Friday's date because she is running from the law. Max is interested in Michael's plan but eventually sides with Isabel.

The next day at school, Liz catches Topolsky in a geometry error, increasing her suspicions. Liz explains her suspicions to Max and when he sees Topolsky with the sheriff he becomes concerned.

Liz receives a note from Max to meet him in the 2nd floor eraser room. Maria does not think Liz should go because the eraser room is where the students go to make-out and it could be dangerous to kiss an alien. Liz says she doesn't think that is why Max is asking her to meet him. It's not, and Liz is obviously disappointed. Max has discovered that he can see into Topolsky's office through the vent in the eraser room. While they are waiting for Topolsky to come to her office so they can spy on her, Liz questions Max some more about his past and learns that he does not know where they are from or what happened before they woke up in the pods as six year olds in 1989 and that they have always had human form. When Topolsky returns to her office, they overhear her tell someone that she is going to Michael's home to find out about him.

Agent Stevens visits the sheriff and denies there is any blood on Liz's uniform. However, he is there to confiscate all of the sheriff's files on UFO and paranormal phenomena. Michael witnesses the files being removed.

That evening, Liz asks Maria to cover for her at the Crashdown and while there Alex confronts her and Maria about the rumors he's heard about Liz being shot and Maria being run over by a car and why they keep talking about Czechoslovakians and why they keep changing the subjects of their conversations whenever

he approaches them. Liz and Maria say they've been discussing their cramps but if Alex wants them to include him in the conversations they will be happy to oblige. Alex declines their offer.

Michael tells Max about the files being removed and that they need to act now. Max doesn't want to do anything that will jeopardize his life in Roswell any further. He tells Michael about Topolsky and that he should not go home, he should go to Max' and stay with Isabel. Max and Liz take off in the jeep and Kyle, seeing them, follows. They park outside Michael's trailer park home and wait for Ms. Topolsky to show up. Liz wants to know how Michael's life turned out so differently than Max and Isabel's but Max does not explain. Ms. Topolsky arrives and knocks on Michael's door. Liz drops her ring on the jeep floor near Max' feet and bends down to pick it up. Seeing this from behind, Kyle thinks something sexual is going on and races up to them to intervene. The commotion he causes draws the attention of Ms. Topolsky and she sees Liz watching her.

Meanwhile, Michael decides to break into the sheriff's office by using his powers to unlock the security bars on the 2nd story back window. Michael does not have control over the force of his powers and he nearly falls from the impact. Max brings Liz back to the Crashdown Café and runs into Isabel who tells him Michael never showed up. Max knows he must be at the sheriff's station. When he and Isabel get to the station they see the sheriff returning. Isabel goes in to distract the sheriff by asking him to help her with a flat tire. Max goes around to the back of the station to find Michael. Michael has discovered that the file drawers have been emptied so he searches the sheriff's desk drawers and finds the key. When he picks it up he receives a vision, a quick flash of a geodesic like structure. The force of the flash knocks Michael over and the noise causes the sheriff and Deputy Blackwood to run to the sheriff's office. Max arrives, tells Michael the sheriff is back, re-locks the security bars and they jump into a dumpster below the window just as the sheriff and deputy arrive to find nothing amiss. Later, back in the jeep, Max and Isabel each hold the key but do not see anything.

The next day at school, Ms. Topolsky tells Liz she is not a substitute teacher but the new guidance counselor, that Michael is in danger of being expelled from school and as his friend she hopes Liz will convince him to come see her.

Liz's voice-over is heard through the following scenes: "Ever since I found out about Max and Isabel and Michael, I've been thinking a lot about secrets. That for everyone who has a secret, there's someone else who needs to know what that secret is (Sheriff Valenti discovers the key is missing from the thermos.) How, sometimes secrets keep people from feeling like they belong (The Evans family is enjoying a game of basketball in their driveway while Michael watches from a distance.) and sometimes secrets make you feel like you do belong (Max and Liz spying on Topolsky from the eraser room.) And now, even I, Liz Parker, the smallest of small town girls with the simplest of lives - even I have something to hide."

SYNOPSIS - MONSTERS

Isabel's jeep breaks down and Maria, passing by, offers her a ride. Isabel makes herself comfortable by using her powers to fix Maria's air conditioning and radio, which freaks out Maria. Maria asks Isabel if her mother knows that she and Max are "different". Isabel's response "You mean horrible disgusting creatures from outer space who sneak into your room at night and perform excruciating experiments?" shocks Maria to the point that she rear-ends Sheriff Valenti's car.

Ms Topolsky announces to their class that she will be conducting interviews in her office over the next few days to discover their dreams for the future.

Maria tells Liz about rear-ending Valenti's car and Isabel's behavior. Liz says she will speak to Max about Isabel.

Topolsky begins her interviews by asking the students what their dream job would be and where they see themselves in ten years. She then continues with a relationship game, showing them pictures of children playing and asking which best describes them. Isabel says she never played well with others and Max says he would be the child behind the tree. Topolsky encourages him not to get stuck behind the tree and to get out into the world. In her notes, next to Max' name, she writes "has secrets".

Max runs into Liz and they discuss Isabel's behavior with Maria.

At lunch, Max tries to convince Isabel to go easy on Maria but she thinks it's a good idea to keep her frightened. Michael wants to discuss the key he found in Valenti's office. He thinks it may belong to the corpse in the picture from 1959.

Topolsky, interviewing Liz, discovers that Liz likes to be in control of things and likes to plan her life, not take it as it comes.

At the Crashdown Café, Isabel comes in and Maria confesses to Liz that she's afraid of her. Liz tries to convince her to get to know Isabel. Valenti comes in to get Maria's insurance info. Maria is very nervous around him. Valenti notices and tells her he is there to protect her. From anything. Liz breaks up their conversation. Later, Max comes in when Maria is working alone. A customer leaves without her change and Max offers to return it to her. He follows the woman and her children into the UFO Center Museum. Milton, the owner, is conducting a tour and discussing sightings in the area. He is fielding questions and hears Max ask about 1959. Milton asks Max to come back tomorrow and he'll show him something interesting.

That evening, Max and Isabel discuss the possibility that they may have parents waiting for them somewhere out there. Max thinks they should be searching for answers to their questions instead of cautiously waiting; that they are not moving forward, as if they were stuck, and he doesn't want to be stuck anymore. Isabel is afraid and thinks they've gone too far already. She also does not think they should be trusting Liz and Maria. She decides to "visit" Maria in her dreams to see what she's thinking. She does this by touching a picture of Maria. Maria is dreaming about working at the Crashdown Café. Max and Isabel are there and look like alien monsters to her but normal to Liz. The real Isabel speaks to Maria, telling her she is visiting her dream so they can talk. Isabel sees Michael dressed in a tuxedo and Maria explains she is less afraid when he's dressed like that, then he turns into a monster, wrapping a tentacle around her neck. Maria screams for the sheriff. Isabel asks what she will tell the sheriff. Maria replies "You guys are disgusting horrible creatures from outer space." The sheriff ignores her. Maria falls out of bed and wakes up.

Topolsky interviews Max about his past and any identity issues he may have due to his being adopted. She tells him that sometimes it's hard to move forward with your future until you can figure out your past.

Max goes to the UFO Center to see what Milton has to show him. It's a dead end, just a picture of Milton as a child in 1959, with a shadow in the background he thinks is an alien. Milton thinks Max is a true

believer and offers him a job, letting him know that he would have access to Milton's archive of information on all things extraterrestrial.

The next day at the Crashdown, Valenti comes in for breakfast. He asks Maria how her neck is after getting hit by a car at the Crashdown Festival and mentions she's had a lot of accidents lately. He then asks her to come by his office tomorrow morning to talk. Isabel overhears their conversation.

In science class, Max asks Liz if Maria can be trusted not to say anything to Valenti. Liz assures him that Maria is very trustworthy, she will be fine tomorrow, Liz will make sure of it. Max emphasizes how important it is and Liz promises that everything will be fine.

Topolsky gives the students the results of their career placement computer profile. Isabel, who wants to be a supermodel, is surprised that the profile suggests she should be a care giver. Topolsky indicates it is because on her profile she put family first and craves stability and security. Topolsky tells her there is nothing wrong with being normal.

Liz and Maria rehearse what she will tell Valenti but Maria thinks the sheriff will see right through their story and maybe she should just tell him the truth.

Maria and Isabel meet at the repair shop to pick up their cars. They do not speak.

At school, Liz tells Max and Michael that she is not sure what Maria will tell Valenti. Liz apologizes to Max and says she never should have told Maria in the first place. Max says she trusted Maria and needed someone to talk to; it was only natural. When she asks why *he* told *her* he replies "It was only natural."

At the sheriff's office, Valenti tells Maria he thinks someone is controlling her through fear and reminds her that he is there to help her. He wants to know why Isabel makes her nervous and how well she knows Max and Isabel. She denies that Isabel makes her nervous and says she doesn't know them well. He says they have something in common; he never got to know his father well either. He tells her his father, the former sheriff 40 years ago, believed in aliens and lost his job and family over it. That he would hate to see that happen to any other family in this town. That both he and she have seen things recently that made them question their own beliefs. Maria is so scared she's crying. He asks her where Max and Isabel are from and she replies "A very nice family. And like you said, Sheriff, we wouldn't want to destroy any other families in this town, would we?"

Isabel's jeep has broken down and Maria pulls up to help her. She tells Isabel she lied for them because when she was so scared with Valenti she suddenly realized what it was like for them.

Maria and Isabel walk into school together and meet Liz, Max and Michael, while Liz's voice-over states that what makes life more interesting is keeping yourself open, letting new people in, changing your mind and not being afraid of the unexpected.

SYNOPSIS - LEAVING NORMAL

Liz is writing in her journal "can life ever go back to normal." Cut to the Crashdown Café where Liz and Maria are contending with an orthodontist convention. Liz tells Maria that her Grandma Claudia is coming for a visit. Maria is excited because she has been going through Grandma Claudia withdrawal. While serving customers who are asking to see her "wonderful overbite", Liz notices Max come in and sit at a booth. Her voice-over states that part of her wants safety and to go back to how things were, and the other part of her wants to go into the unknown. As Liz takes Max' order, two teenage boys, sitting at the counter, notice them and say "That's him." The Crashdown closes and Max leaves. While walking home he is met by four boys who block his way, tell him to "stay away from her" and proceed to beat him up.

Michael learns that Kyle's friends beat up Max, whose face is a mass of cuts and bruises. Michael wants to retaliate but Max says no, that would just escalate things out of control, that people would talk and his involvement in the shooting at the Crashdown might come up again and they could get exposed. He warns Michael not to do anything to those guys and says he will stay away from Liz.

The next day at school, Liz asks Max what happened to his face and he tells her he fell, then brushes her off. Kyle reminds Liz that they are watching a video that evening. Michael "accidentally" bumps into one of Kyle's friends that beat up Max and then surreptitiously watches as the guy starts itching and scratching all over as he's trying to talk with a cheerleader.

Later, at the Crashdown, Liz and her father greet Grandma Claudia. Liz wants to know if she has finished writing her book but Claudia wants to know what's happening with Liz. They go up to Liz's bedroom and Liz tells her about Kyle, that he's not her true love but they have a good time together. Claudia says everyone wants to find their soul mate but it's nice to have someone to have fun with in the meantime. Liz implies that there might be someone else but it is very complicated. Claudia says if it's not complicated then he's probably not a soul mate. Maria comes in and reveals that Max is the mystery man in Liz's life.

Max is working at the UFO Center when Isabel comes in to talk to him. She doesn't believe his story of falling while playing basketball and wants to know what really happened. Max tells her about Kyle's friends and that he has decided to stay away from Liz. Isabel wants to know why he hasn't "healed" the cuts and bruises and he replies that they have to heal normally, everything has to be normal.

Liz and Kyle are returning from the video store when they see an ambulance outside the Crashdown. Claudia is being taken to the hospital. While waiting at the hospital, Liz phones Max and leaves a message on his answering machine. She tells him about her grandmother, that she's not sure why she called, maybe just to hear his voice but that he shouldn't come to the hospital because everyone is there. Max has been listening to the message as she's leaving it. The doctor comes in to tell them that Claudia has had a stroke, she's stabilized but that it's still too early to predict the outcome. Max comes in. Liz is surprised and pleased that he came by. She introduces him to her parents. The moment becomes awkward and Max says he is there to see a cousin who was in an auto accident and leaves. Kyle, who is not pleased that Max came, confronts him in the parking lot. Kyle tells Max he appreciates that Max helped Liz calm down after the shooting at the Crashdown but he doesn't appreciate it that Max is continuing to stay in the picture. He tells Max that he likes Liz a lot and doesn't want Max around her. Max tells him he can see that and drives off. Later at home, Kyle tells his father that Liz's grandmother had a stroke and that Liz seems to have someone else on her mind. Valenti guesses that it's Max and warns Kyle to stay away from him.

At school the next day, Michael's class is taking a test. One of Kyle's friends turns in his paper just before Michael and Michael waves his hand over the guy's paper and changes all his answers.

Liz meets Max at his locker and thanks him for coming to the hospital, apologizes that it was so awkward and says perhaps she shouldn't have called him. He agrees that it was a mistake for her to call and reminds her they had an agreement. He walks away and into the boys' room, punches the wall of one of the stalls, which falls on Michael who is inside. Michael points out that "Ghandi's" frustration is due to the fact that he's in love with a girl who is with another guy. He says he has something to show him that will cheer

him up and brings him in view of Kyle's locker. Kyle is unable to open his locker. Michael is pleased with his handiwork but Max is angry and drags Michael into an adjacent, empty classroom and demands to know what Michael is doing. Michael says helping out and Max says this is not helping and that he promised not to do anything. Michael says he promised not to hurt them. Max tells Michael he is putting them in danger and Michael reminds him that it was Max who put them in danger when he saved Liz. He pokes Max on the shoulder and says "You're the one who screwed up." Max overreacts, grabs Michael and shoves him against the wall saying he'd save Liz again right now; then he realizes he's pinning Michael against the wall and steps back. Michael says lets hope we can trust her and Max assures him they can. Michael looks Max in the eyes and says "Well I don't trust anyone these days."

Maria asks Liz why she is at school. Liz says her parents wanted her to take a break and they would page her if necessary. Liz tells Maria that she thinks Max is avoiding her. Maria reminds her they had agreed to stay apart but Liz says his tone with her was more like he was treating her as an enemy. Liz says she will see Maria at work and Maria insists that Liz go to the hospital - she and Agnes can handle the orthodontists alone. Cut to the Crashdown where Agnes is no help and Maria is unable to handle things alone. Maria sees Isabel and, in desperation, asks her to help wait tables. Isabel thinks Maria must be joking and tells her that she is not service oriented. Maria hopes to elicit sympathy by saying she'd be doing it for Liz whose grandmother is in the hospital. Isabel says "Since you put it that way, no."

At the hospital, Jeffrey and Nancy are regaling Liz with one of Claudia's heroic exploits that made national news when they hear over the speakers that she's gone code blue.

At school, maintenance opens Kyle's locker and Kyle discovers it was melted shut.

Isabel walks into Max' bedroom dressed in a Crashdown Café waitress uniform; Max says "No way!" and then realizes she's covering for Liz. She tells him Liz's grandmother is not doing well and perhaps he should talk to Liz; that since Liz called him from the hospital she obviously needed his support in this and that if something similar happened to one of their grandparents she wouldn't want to be kept away from someone she needed.

At the Crashdown, Isabel uses her powers to cook underdone burgers and reheat coffee. Maria really appreciates her help. Isabel's friends remind her that "image is everything" and if she's seen doing this they will all suffer. She tells them to "chill out".

Liz visits Max at home. She tells him that the reason she called him from the hospital was that she was listening to her heart, not logic and her heart told her he was the one person in the world she really wanted to talk to. Then she says she's really sorry for asking, but could he use his powers to help her grandmother. He tells her he's not capable of healing Claudia's illness, that he's not God.

The next day at school, Kyle learns from his friends that they beat up Max. He is very angry with them.

That evening, at the hospital, Kyle apologizes to Liz for his friends beating up Max and swears he had nothing to do with it. Liz is very angry when she learns how Max really got hurt. Kyle thinks she and Max are together. She denies it but says *they* are not together either. Kyle warns her that Max is trouble and his father is watching him. Liz goes back to her grandmother and suggests to her parents that they take a break and get some air. Max comes to her grandmother's room. He says he can't stop what's happening but maybe he can help her say goodbye. He touches Claudia and she has an out-of-body experience; both

Max and Liz can see her. Liz tells her how much she means to her. Claudia asks Liz to promise her to "always follow your heart, no matter where it takes you." Liz agrees. Claudia's heart monitor flat lines and she is gone. Max drives Liz home. Crying, Liz thanks Max, says goodnight and turns to go into the Cafe.

Then she turns back and they embrace as Liz's voice-over says "the difficult part is, when you follow your heart, you leave normal; you go into the unknown and once you do, you can never go back."

SYNOPSIS - MISSING

Liz is walking home and thinking how familiar surroundings can suddenly seem strange and ominous and you start wondering if maybe it's you that's changed but then something happens to make you rethink the whole thing. Liz gets home and discovers her journal is missing. She goes to Maria's house and tells her that the journal is missing and that she wrote everything in that journal, including *everything* about Max.

Michael wakes up suddenly and starts to draw. He wakes up Max by knocking on his bedroom window, tells him he dreamt of the vision he saw when he held the key he found in Valenti's office (which he hasn't been able to remember) and shows Max his drawing - it looks like a semi-circle. Max isn't pleased that he was awakened at 3:00 in the morning because Michael is dreaming of semi-circles but he tries to be patient as he can see that Michael is very excited about this. Max suggests they discuss it in the morning and Michael stays over.

At school, Maria suggests to Liz that they reconstruct the crime of her missing journal; who has motive and opportunity. Liz does not want to think that anyone took the journal but admits that Alex was alone in her room when they were studying together. Alex becomes Maria's number one suspect. He has a motive because they have been so secretive around him lately and now she knows he had an opportunity. Liz wonders aloud to Maria how she is going to tell Max. Maria suggests "over drinks."

Max is at a vending machine that won't give him the product he bought so he uses his powers to "loosen" it and a veritable feast drops down. Liz comes up and asks him if he's hungry. She wants to know if she can ask him something. He says "Sure, but I have to be honest with you Liz, at this point, I don't think I have any more secrets left." Michael rudely interrupts and Liz leaves. Max reminds Michael that he said he would be nicer to Liz and Michael reminds Max that he said he would stay away from Liz.

Liz is in a dark, empty classroom thinking. Ms Topolsky finds her, wants to know if something is wrong and assures Liz she can talk to her as a friend. Liz tells her everything is great.

Maria asks Alex if he had anything to do with the missing journal. Alex is very hurt that they would think he would do such a thing. Later Topolsky sees him hitting his locker in anger and asks him to come to her office to talk. She learns that Liz's journal is missing and she calls "control" for back-up.

Michael shows up for art class, surprising his teacher who hasn't seen him in over a week. Michael starts to draw his vision.

At the UFO Center, Milton finds Max going through his library and recommends he read James Atherton's "Among Us". Liz drops by and asks if she can talk to him privately. She tells him about the missing journal and he is concerned but agrees when she asks for one more day to find it.

At home, Liz is thoroughly searching the living room when her mother comes in and mentions that Alex called, adding "although I'm quite sure that you are in no great rush to speak with him." Liz, not remembering telling her mother about not talking to Alex lately, becomes suspicious, thinking perhaps she has the journal and starts to cross exam her mother. Nancy is confused by Liz's behavior, Liz apologizes and her mother goes out.

At the Crashdown, Max is engrossed in Atherton's book but ridicules it's contents. Michael is drawing his vision and Isabel is upset that he's doing it in public. She tries to get Max to agree with her but he just tells Michael it's getting pretty good. Kyle comes up to Max and tells him "I'm on to you." Max goes upstairs to Liz's to tell her he thinks Kyle has the journal. She tells him Kyle couldn't have the journal because he hasn't been to her house in over a week and, since he thinks Max is responsible for their break-up, he was probably referring to that. Nancy returns and Liz pulls Max into her bedroom so her mother doesn't see him. Max picks up one of her CDs and gets a flash of Kyle; he tells Liz Kyle was there.

Michael is alone in the art room working on his painting. It's starting to take shape and has a geodesic look to it. When Michael doesn't like a paint stroke, he waves his hand and removes it with his powers.

Kyle is playing basketball with some friends and Liz comes by. She thanks him for the CD, he tells her her father let him in. Liz starts to quiz him to see if perhaps he took the journal. He tells her he has no secrets from her but wants to know what she's so afraid of him finding out and does it have anything to do with Max and the shooting at the Crashdown. Liz now thinks Kyle has the journal.

Michael's painting is on display for the whole school to see. Isabel is very upset. Since they do not know what this painting represents, they may be inadvertently revealing a secret to others. Michael is just very proud of his accomplishment and the fact that his teacher told him it's the best thing to come out of his class all year. He's hurt that Isabel and Max are not more supportive.

Topolsky meets with two agents and tells them about Liz's missing journal and that she thinks it will contain proof of alien contact. She tells the agents she thinks she knows where the journal is because Liz is having trouble with her boyfriend.

That evening Liz and Max go to Kyle's house to investigate. The lights are off but they find the front door ajar and it seems as if no one is home. They go to Kyle's room; they do not see a shadowy figure in the hallway. They search Kyle's room but do not find the journal. Max thinks he sees movement outside Kyle's room and goes to investigate, just as Kyle pulls up in his car. Max and Liz run out the back but do not see the shadowy figure hiding in the bushes.

In art class, Michael is drawing his favorite subject. His teacher tries to encourage him to draw something else besides geodesic domes. Michael asks him what a geodesic dome is and the teacher explains that it's a type of house - post modern architecture. His teacher tells him that an artist of his talent should try to draw other things and suggests the nude statue the other students are working on. Michael draws a stick figure and his teacher tells him to stick with the dome.

Max tells Michael and Isabel about the missing journal. That evening Michael goes to the Crashdown after closing. Liz is there alone. He tells her Max told him what happened and he wants her to know that it wasn't smart for her to write all that down. She says she knows and he tells her he knew it a week ago when he saw her writing in it at the Crashdown. He had to know who his friends were and what the risk was so he had to know what was in the journal. He returns the journal and tells her "It's nice to know we have at least one friend in this town." He asks her not to tell Max that he had the journal. She asks him why he didn't destroy the journal "because anyone that found this would know all about you." and he replies "No, they'd know all about you, Liz. Thank you for giving me one more reason to envy Max Evans." He advises her to get better locks for her window and leaves.

Liz drops by the UFO Center to tell Max that a "good friend" found the journal at the Crashdown and returned it. Liz tries to explain why she wrote about him in her journal; that she had to find a way to put into words the way he touched her. He asks if he can see what she wrote but she doesn't think it's a good idea and he realizes it's because then he'd know how she really sees him.

At lunch, Isabel asks Max why he is still reading Atherton's book and he replies that it is a "guilty pleasure." She wants to know why he's in such a good mood and he tells her and Michael that a good friend returned Liz's journal; Michael smiles. Isabel starts flipping through Atherton's book and notices, and points out to Max and Michael, a picture of Michael's dome on the back flap of the book cover.

Liz is writing in her journal that she use to wish for a more interesting life but now she knows that the bigger her world gets the bigger her problems get. She then hides her journal behind a brick in her bedroom wall.

SYNOPSIS - 285 SOUTH/RIVER DOG

It's nighttime. Michael breaks into the UFO Center to access Milton's computer files on James Atherton. As he prints out, and collects the information, which includes Atherton's address, Michael is startled to discover that Milton is asleep at his desk in the printer room. An alarm on the printer goes off, waking Milton, who demands to know what Michael wants. Michael says "nothing...it's all just one big mistake", backs up, then turns to run down the stairs but his path is blocked by Deputy Blackwood, gun drawn.

At school the next day in history class, the teacher explains that everyone has secrets and exposing those secrets is the job of the historian. The class must find out the secrets of an assigned classmate by having them answer survey questions, which, unbeknownst to the class, have been provided by Ms. Topolsky. Topolsky also is responsible for pairing Liz with Isabel, Maria with Michael and Max with Kyle.

After class a school administrator tells Max he has a phone call in the office. Later Max arrives at the sheriff's station to discover that Michael broke into the Center and claims he invaded the premises of the Center at Max' request. Max lies for Michael and says he leant Michael his keys to get some research for class. Michael says he lost the keys so he sneaked in; he was just doing Max "a favor". Max says he will work off any damages and asks Milton not to press charges. Milton reluctantly agrees so the deputy releases Michael. In private, Max says to Michael "Don't do me anymore favors." The deputy gives Sheriff Valenti a copy of the information Michael took from the Center.

At school, Michael says they have to go *now* to Atherton's dome in Marathon, TX. Max thinks they should wait but Michael says he's connected with this, it's not letting him wait. He asks Max for the keys to the jeep without success and leaves upset. Max says to Isabel that he won't get far without a car.

Maria sees Michael and stops him to tell him about their assignment and starts asking him the questions. Michael is not interested until he learns that Maria has her mother's car with her to make a customer delivery for her mother. Michael agrees to answer Maria's questions if she'll drive him to the highway.

Kyle and Max, and Liz and Isabel, are going over the questions at the Crashdown. Liz is concerned how Max and Kyle are getting along so she brings a bottle of ketchup to their booth as an excuse. Kyle asks Max question #8 "Have you ever been in love?" Liz is visibly crestfallen when Max answers no.

Maria stops at the Lift Off Gas Station to make her delivery. She is upset with Michael for not answering the questions honestly saying "You do not watch The View!" She gets out of the car and while she's talking with her mother's customer, Michael gets out, climbs into the driver's seat and starts to take off. Maria sees this and runs in front of the car to stop him, gets in on the passenger side and yells at him for stealing her car. He tells her he's only borrowing it and to get out. She tells him that if anything happens to this car, life as she knows it will be over, so wherever it goes, she goes. He says fine and they take off with Maria exclaiming that she's being abducted. They turn onto the 285 South highway.

At the Crashdown, Liz gets a call on her cell phone. It's Maria but she sounds strange. Cut to Maria's car where she secretly called Liz on her cell phone and is trying to tell Liz what has happened and where she is without letting Michael know she is talking to Liz and not him. Michael gets suspicious, finds the phone and throws it out the window but not before Liz has learned that Maria is nervous about being in a car alone with Michael, heading south on the 285. Isabel overhears the conversation and tells Max they have to go. Kyle follows them out to their jeep. Isabel tells Max that Michael found a car, Maria's, and that they are on the 285 South. They get in their jeep to follow and Liz insists on joining them. Max is reluctant at first but when Kyle comes up, asking what's going on, he tells Liz to get in and they take off, but not before Max notices the man parked next to them. When they leave, the man gets on his cell phone and tells Topolsky that they just left. She tells him to follow them. Topolsky sends an encrypted message about "tension in the ranks" and waiting for them to "slip up" over her computer to a "Special Investigations Unit."

In Maria's car, Maria has learned they are headed to Marathon, TX (3 hours away), so she adds crossing the state line with a minor to the list of offenses for which Michael could be arrested, along with kidnapping, stealing her mother's car and vandalism of personal property (her cell phone). She then reminds him that she told him not to drive the car over 80 mph because it couldn't handle it. She asks him what's so important in Marathon and he starts to tell her she wouldn't understand, it could be the most important day of his life but he's unable to finish because a highway patrol car is behind them, sirens blaring. Michael pulls over. Maria tells him he has 20 seconds to explain why this could be the most important day of his life. He shows her the information on Atherton and tells her that if he doesn't get there quickly, the only link they have to their past could be gone. The highway patrol officer comes up to Michael's window and tells him he was going 94 and asks where he is going in such a hurry. Maria tells the officer that she has to pee badly and he was just driving fast to get her to a restroom quickly. Michael is amazed and relieved by the story Maria concocts and that the officer only issues him a citation.

Sheriff Valenti comes home to find Kyle making phone calls to the Parker, Evans and DeLuca homes to find Liz. Kyle tells his father about Max, Isabel and Liz leaving so suddenly, that they are not home and have lied to their parents and he thinks something weird is going on. His father asks him if he knows where they went. Kyle hesitates, then says no. Kyle wants to know what his father knows about Max. The sheriff says they'll talk about it later and heads back to his office.

That evening, at a convenience store, Liz brings coffee to Isabel and it spills all over both of them. Isabel uses her powers to remove the coffee from her clothes but leaves Liz dripping. Liz senses Isabel's underlying resentment and tells her she is not trying to take Max away from her. Isabel says she knows. Liz asks her, if they find something in Marathon, would Isabel take Max away from her. Isabel answers by using her powers to remove the coffee from Liz's sweater. Liz thanks her. Max comes out of the store and sees the agent has followed them and he uses his powers to flatten the guys tires.

Maria's car develops problems and they have to pull off the road. Maria tells Michael to use his powers to fix the car and he has to admit to her that he's not very good at it. He tries anyway and is frustrated and humiliated when he fries the battery. They broke down in front of a motel so decide to spend the night.

Liz receives a call from Kyle on her cell phone. He's in his car at the 285 south entrance and is just checking to see if Liz will lie to him about her whereabouts. She does and he gets on the 285 south.

At his office, the sheriff learns from highway patrol that Michael received a traffic citation on the 285 south. He checks his map and sees that the 285 south leads to Marathon, TX.

Maria and Michael check into their room, which Maria describes as the "porno version of Aladdin". Michael gets some food from the vending machine and Maria asks him if he gets any other "urges" besides hunger. He tells her "Not if you were the last woman on Earth." Maria decides to continue with the survey. She learns that he can quote James Joyce's Ulysses and that they have something in common - that they both believe there is a better life waiting for them outside of Roswell, NM. They decide to get some sleep. Michael indicates the bed and says "I don't suppose we could share." and Maria replies "Not if you were the last alien on Earth."

Stopped in traffic from an accident up ahead, Isabel flirts with a highway patrol officer and Max apologizes to Liz for Michael and Isabel's behavior, pointing out that they are not all the same. He also tells her it feels like his life didn't even start until he told her the truth. Isabel comes back to the jeep and says the roadblock will be lifted in an hour, then she notices Maria's car parked near the motel. Isabel uses her powers to unlock the motel door. Maria, startled awake, falls off the bed and on top of Michael, who was sleeping on the floor, causing Liz to momentarily think she's intruding on a tryst rather than rescuing her friend. Michael asks Max if he is there to be supportive and Max replies that he is there to "clean up your mess as usual." Kyle walks in on them. Michael tells him to get out and when he doesn't he grabs Kyle and sends him flying across the room. Michael's surprising strength causes Kyle to be even more suspicious. He tries to convince Liz to leave but he leaves without her when she convinces him she does not appreciate his heroic efforts. She then demands that Max tell her and Maria the whole truth of what's going on and when he does she suggests they get going and they continue their journey to the dome. Michael tries the key in the front door but it doesn't work. Max uses his powers to open the door. Inside it is obvious the place was abandoned years ago. With Maria's encouragement, Michael holds the key again to see if he can get another vision and he sees a hidden room. They search for an entry and Michael finds a lock hidden behind

a stone in the wall. The key works this time and opens a trapdoor in the floor. They go downstairs, closing the trapdoor behind them and find an office filled with papers, maps and pictures. They hear footsteps above them. Cut to the sheriff entering the dome home. The sheriff is looking around when he is struck from behind by Topolsky. The kids hear someone hit the floor. **(End of 285 South episode and beginning of River Dog episode.)** As they listen to footsteps up above, Michael starts searching through the papers in the office to find something that will help them discover their past. Up above, Topolsky has found the lock that releases the trapdoor and starts to pick it. Valenti comes to and sees Topolsky then pretends he's still unconscious. In the basement, Liz discovers another exit, just as the trapdoor is released. The kids grab as much of the paperwork as they can and put it in a box. Isabel notices a broken necklace pendant with a symbol on it and grabs it too. They all scramble out the tunnel exit. Topolsky comes downstairs and emerges from the tunnel exit in time to see the kids drive off in their jeep.

They pick up Maria's car and Michael drives her home. Maria mentions that she hadn't realized before how many sides Michael has to his personality. Michael says whatever happened between them the day before is over now.

At home, Isabel finds a photo of a symbol she and Max drew in the sand at the beach when they were children - it's the same as on the necklace she found.

At school, Maria tells Liz that she finds Michael interesting and that he communicates to her by "sending vibes out into the atmosphere." She then tells Liz that Michael said they'd pick her up after school to go through the files and she'll see Liz there. Liz seems surprised but says she'll be there. Liz then goes to talk to Kyle to make sure he won't tell anyone about last night. He tells her he won't tell anyone anything "until I have something on him that will destroy him."

Topolsky is on the phone with her supervisor, Agent Stevens, regarding her assignment to "covertly observe the subjects to determine whether or not the theories about them are substantiated." Agent Stevens is angry that Topolsky knocked out the sheriff. He demands that she retrieve what the kids took from the house and he wants to know what they are doing at all times.

Valenti visits Milton at the UFO Center and learns that Atherton disappeared in 1959. Back at his office, he compares a photo of the corpse with the silver hand print (which he had hidden under his desk drawer) to Atherton's picture on his book cover - they match.

Driving home from school, Michael tells Max and Isabel that he invited Maria to help with the files because he couldn't help it; "she sends out these vibes." Max says it has to be just the three of them and Michael is about to call Maria to cancel when they notice cop cars and a commotion in front of the Evans home. Max tells Michael to take off and he and Isabel learn from Valenti that their home has been burglarized. Max and Isabel head for his bedroom and discover the files are missing. However, Isabel is wearing the necklace, so it was not taken, and Deputy Blackwood recognizes the symbol as something he saw growing up on the Mesaliko Reservation, just outside town.

That evening, Michael is followed by the same agent as last night. When he meets Max, Isabel, Liz and Maria at the Crashdown, they go up to Liz's living room to talk and he tells them about being followed. Max admits he saw the same guy the night before. Michael notices Isabel's necklace for the first time and feels he's seen the symbol before. Isabel tells them what the deputy told her. Michael wants to go to the reservation but Max says it's too dangerous with someone following them.

The sheriff visits Topolsky to get her reaction when he mentions the break-in at the Evans home and that he "woke up with one hell of a headache."

Liz visits Max, through his bedroom window, to tell him she's going to the reservation and wants the necklace. Max tries to tell her no but she tells him she doesn't need his permission and he relents.

That evening, she goes to the reservation and meets an elderly Native American who wants to know who else knows about the necklace and was she followed. He tells her the symbol on the necklace is dangerous - "it brings death."

The next day at the Crashdown, a guy named Eddie brings Liz the bottom piece of the pendant from River Dog - it matches perfectly. He tells her to meet River Dog at 10:00 tonight at the reservation and to come alone.

To avoid being followed, Max and Liz pretend to go to the movies and go out the back, where Maria gives them her car. In the meantime, Michael and Isabel in the jeep act as a decoy so Topolsky will follow them and not Max and Liz. The sheriff pulls Topolsky over for blowing through 3 red lights, 2 stop signs and doing 70 in a 30 mph zone. He tells her she is a "walking, talking, moving violation" and that he could bring her in and do a background check to find out what she's really up to or they could just have a nice conversation.

Max and Liz arrive at the reservation and meet Eddie, who is upset that Max is there but tells him if he passes the test, River Dog will answer his questions.

Maria, Michael and Isabel meet at the Crashdown to wait for Max and Liz. Michael helps himself to some cake and puts Tabasco sauce on it. Maria asks why they put Tabasco sauce on everything and Isabel says it's a dietary quirk - they like things extremely sweet mixed with things extremely spicy. Maria and Michael are making eye contact and making little remarks to each other so Isabel accuses them of flirting and leaves saying "God, could my life get any worse!"

Eddie leads Max and Liz to a cave and leaves. When they go into the dark cave, someone grabs Liz and Max uses his powers to create a light to find Liz. River Dog tells him he passed the test.

At a bar, the sheriff tells Topolsky he knows she is FBI and that she is the one who knocked him out; he's just giving her a heads up before notifying her superiors that her cover has been blown. She suggests they could work together by sharing information. He says he'll think about it.

River Dog tells Max he knew someone like Max but hasn't seen him for 40 years. The man was a loner but trusted Atherton and gave him his necklace; he also killed him. It was in November 1959. River Dog was too far away to see how it happened but when he reached them, Atherton was dead.

At the Crashdown, Maria is freaking out because Max and Liz are taking too long and she thinks they're in trouble. She's also upset with Michael because he's not doing anything to calm her down. Michael gives her a tender, romantic kiss and tells her it was to help her calm down. She thanks him and they step apart.

River Dog shows Max and Liz a cave painting of symbols the man left. The man was afraid he was close to being found out and that they would kill him. He told River Dog some day someone would come but he made River Dog promise not to show the message to anyone who didn't pass the test. No one else had come before Max. Max recognizes the symbols but can't remember what they mean. Max asks River Dog if they can come again and River Dog replies that he has completed his promise, there's nothing more he can tell, nothing more they can learn. He pulls Liz aside and says "Make sure he deserves your trust." Max holds out his hand and says "Liz, let's go." She goes to him, takes his hand and they leave together.

SYNOPSIS - BLOOD BROTHER

At school, Max tells Liz that their teacher for 4th period is out sick and asks her to skip class with him so he can show her something. They are driving on the old highway to Albuquerque in the jeep when a horse runs out on the road. Max swerves to avoid the horse and crashes the jeep in the brush. Liz is OK but Max is unconscious. Cut to Liz and Max in an ambulance going to the hospital. Back at school, Maria runs into Michael and asks him why he is avoiding her when her cell phone rings. It's Liz, telling her about the accident. At the hospital, the doctor orders blood drawn for a trauma panel. At school, Agent Topolsky is notified of the accident, calls her operative and tells him to go to the hospital, "We might have an opportunity." Michael and Isabel arrive at the hospital. The nurse drawing Max' blood tells them they can't stay so Michael charms her into letting them stay. When she leaves with the blood, he follows her. Liz asks Isabel what they've done before and Isabel says "Nothing like this has ever happened before. We don't get sick." Isabel tells her they need to find a guy so they can switch the blood. At school, Alex is talking with friends, trying to organize a garage band, when Maria pulls him away. In the lab room, the nurse leaves Max' vial with others. Michael comes in, starts looking for the vial and hides when he hears someone coming in. It's the FBI agent, dressed in hospital garb. He starts looking for the vial. Maria and Alex arrive at Max' hospital room. Liz tells Alex she needs a huge favor, she needs his blood. The nurse returns to the lab room and asks the "medic" what he's doing there. He says "Sorry" and leaves. Isabel draws Alex' blood. The nurse in the lab room pulls out Max' vial, places it on her desk and, while her back is turned, Michael comes out of his hiding place and pretends he's just come in. As an excuse for being there, he asks "Susan" out on a date. She is flattered, replies he's a little young for her and goes into an adjoining room to check something under a microscope. Liz sneaks up behind him and hands him the vial with Alex' blood. While Susan is still using the microscope, Michael switches the vials, all the while telling her age doesn't matter to him, etc. Susan tells him she appreciates the thought but she can't do it and asks him to call her when he's 18. He agrees and leaves with Max' vial. The FBI agent sees him leave.

Maria, Alex, Liz and Michael are in the waiting room. Liz suggests to Alex that he go home. He replies "Liz, what I just did I could get arrested for and that's all you have to say to me?" Michael says "She said go home." and Alex replies "Great new friends you've made, Liz." then leaves. Liz follows and tells him to wait. He says "I've been waiting, Liz and apparently I'm not going to get an explanation." Liz says "It's complicated, OK?" and he replies "No, it's not OK, none of this is OK." He surmises that it's about drugs, that Max was wasted when he had the accident and Michael is just as high so they couldn't use his blood, so she calls him because he's so loyal a friend he'll do anything she says even when she lies to him and uses him. Liz lets him believe it's drugs so she doesn't have to tell him the truth. Alex, very disappointed in her, leaves. Isabel comes out to tell them Max is awake.

In Max' room, the doctor tells Diane that Max is fine but he'd like to keep him overnight to run tests in the morning. Max assures his mother that he is fine and pleads with her to let him go home. The doctor and Diane relent when Max promises to take it easy and let them know if he feels any dizziness. The doctor leaves and the others come in. Max introduces his mother to Liz. Later, as everyone is leaving, Maria realizes she left her purse in Max' room. Michael goes back for it and sees two FBI agents going through the trash and Max' chart. He recognizes one of them as the guy that followed him to the Crashdown and the other as the one who was in the lab room. Later, in Max' bedroom he tells Max and Isabel what he saw. Michael says they need to find out what they can about them, that he wants to know his enemy.

Topolsky has a clandestine meeting with the agent who posed as a medic, who tells her that the blood test came back normal but he thinks they switched samples with Alex' blood.

At school the next day, Alex sits with Kyle for lunch and learns that Liz has been lying to him too. Kyle doesn't believe that Liz didn't let Alex in on "her little secret."

At school, Liz tells Max how scared she was when he was hurt and he thanks her for her help. She tells him it was Alex that helped and sensing that she wants to tell Alex the truth, Max reminds her that they can't but says that they have to tell him something. She tells him that she told Alex it was drugs and she thinks he believed her. Max apologizes for making her lie for him and she tells him "I guess these are the things you do when you feel a certain way about someone."

in Maria's car, Isabel, Michael and Maria follow one of the FBI agents to a motel, where they wait for him to come out again. When the agent leaves his motel room, Michael and Maria break into his room while Isabel acts as lookout in the car. Maria comments that this is the 2nd time he's dragged her to a cheap motel and Michael replies "Well don't spread it around, it will ruin my reputation." Michael tells her they are looking for ID, something to tell them about this guy. He heads for the bathroom and she, not impressed by his detecting abilities, points out they would have better luck checking luggage tags, the phone message pad and the trash, rather than the guys toiletries. They have success in the trash, finding something with the name Moss and a phone number. Maria picks up the phone and dials the number. Topolsky answers by saying her name. Maria hangs up and says either Toplosky takes her job way too seriously or she's not a guidance counselor.

At school, Topolsky comes up to Alex, who's having lunch. While he's not looking, she puts something in his drink. She starts asking him about Max and Liz interrupts. Topolsky asks Alex to stop by her office later and leaves. Liz starts to apologize, and tries to make sure he hasn't told anyone, when Alex develops a nose bleed and leaves for the boys' room. When his nose stops bleeding, he throws the tissue in the trash and leaves. Topolsky goes into the boys' room and retrieves the tissue.

At the Crashdown, Michael tells Max and Isabel what happened at the motel and Maria tells Liz. Michael's version makes it sound like he was the master detective, not Maria. They are all concerned about what Alex will say to Topolsky. Michael says "Stick a fork in us Maxwell, we're done."

At school, Alex goes to Toplosky's office. She tells him she knows he switched blood for Max, that she wants to help him, that the sheriff won't get involved and it won't appear on his record. She wants to keep him safe from Max and asks him to write out a statement and sign it. When he hesitates, she tells him to think about who he's protecting, "What friend would put you in a position like this?" She tells him she has friends who can help him. When he asks who they are she says "People you can trust, like me." Alex leaves her office and goes to his locker where he meets Max. Max says they need to talk about what Alex did for him at the hospital. He tells Alex that he saved his life and Alex replies "Yeah, well, you screwed up mine." He tells Max that if he's there to threaten him into not talking he's too late, Topolsky already knows. Max asks if he told her and Alex says that she told him and asked him to sign a confession. Max asks if he did and Alex avoids the question and says "Now you know what it's like being in the dark, Max." Max says "Alex, I'm trying to protect you." and Alex replies "I didn't know so many people cared." and leaves. Liz comes by and slips a note in Alex' locker. Later, Alex meets Liz at the Crashdown. She tells him she needs him to believe in her even though she can't tell him what he wants to know. She tells him there is a right side and a wrong side and if he chooses the wrong side, something terrible will happen to all of them. She asks him to remember their 5 year friendship and trust her when she says she's on the right side.

At school, Alex goes to see Toplosky. He tells her he's worried about Liz and wants to know what her friends would do to Liz if he gives her what she wants. She says Liz would be questioned and that they would run medical tests to make sure she wasn't harmed. Liz comes in and asks if she can speak to her in the hallway. She tells Topolsky that Alex has been acting paranoid and hurt since she's made new friends. Meanwhile, Alex is at Topolsky's computer trying to break into her e-mail files. Topolsky realizes that Liz is just stalling her and goes back to her office. When she opens the door, Alex turns the screen towards her and reveals the FBI seal. Topolsky says "If you think you've just helped yourself your wrong. This isn't going to end just because you know who I am. I was on your side, I just hope your friend Max doesn't end up in the wrong hands without me here." She packs up her laptop and leaves. Alex tells Liz that she either tells him the truth or it's the end of their friendship. Liz is devastated but tells him she can't. Alex leaves.

SYNOPSIS - HEAT WAVE

At the Crashdown, after closing, Maria is alone, sweeping the floor. There's a heat wave and perspiration is glistening on her body. She looks up and sees Michael standing at the door. She unlocks the door and steps back to let him enter. When he does, he takes her in a torrid embrace, kissing her passionately. He picks her up and sits her on the counter, oblivious to items already there. Liz, who is upstairs, comes down to the Crashdown kitchen for a drink, where she sees Michael and Maria making out on the floor.

At school the next day, Michael and Maria are making out in the janitor's closet. Liz runs into Kyle and his new girlfriend Vicky, who tells her about a party on Friday at the old soap factory. Sheriff Valenti questions Alex about Agent Topolsky. Liz sees Max and tells him she saw Valenti with Alex, that Kyle has a new girlfriend and about the party on Friday. She asks him if he's noticed Michael acting different around Maria. Concerned, Max asks if there's something going on between them. Liz says "No...would it be bad if there were?" Max says "Yes, I mean...I don't know." Amy is making a scene at the principal's office because she was called in by Topolsky, who has supposedly "disappeared". Valenti sees Amy, flirts with her and makes a joke about her staying out of jail. Liz sees Alex and tries to talk to him. He says "What do you want from me: More blood? A urine sample? How about my kidney?" She says she wants to be friends again and he says she's only interested in protecting Max. He tells her he use to feel he could trust her with his life and now it feels as if he doesn't even know her. She tells him she wants to tell him but it's not her secret to tell and asks what he said to Valenti. He replies that it's not his secret to tell.

In the girls' room, Liz comments on Maria wearing a turtleneck when it's 105° and then gives her some make-up to cover up the hickey. She tells her she saw the two of them at the Crashdown. In the boys' room, Max asks Michael if there's anything going on between him and Maria and he says just kissing. Max reminds him they agreed to discuss things before acting on any urges. Michael replies "Well, I hate to tell you this, Max, but when I have urges, you're not exactly the first person I think about." Max warns him not to let things spin out of control. Michael admits "It feels so wrong, but it feels so good." In the girls' room, Liz is trying to reason with Maria and asks if the two of them even talk. Maria says "Of course we talk." Cut to Michael and Maria making out in the eraser room and Maria saying "Shouldn't we like, talk or something." While kissing each other on the neck, etc., they exchange pleasantries and then she asks him if he's going to the soap factory party. He says he doesn't know, "Friday's like years from now."

At the Crashdown, Amy is selling alien cocktail stirrers to Jeff. Valenti comes in. He apologizes to Amy for arresting her when she was 18 for protesting the destruction of a 200 year old piece of Native American architecture. He was just doing his job but he singled her out "Cuz you were cute."

Liz and Isabel are outside painting their toenails. Liz asks her why she tends to keep things platonic with guys. Isabel asks her if she's afraid to let someone in, to let them see who she really is. Liz says yes and Isabel says "Well, multiply that by about a million." Isabel then uses her powers to change the clear nail polish to the blue of the Liz's sandals, and says "At least we can do cool stuff like that." She asks Liz whether she thinks Alex will "cave" and when Liz says she wishes she knew what was going on inside him, Isabel says "I'll look into it." Cut to Isabel preparing to visit Alex in his dreams. Alex is in a ballroom dressed in a tux, with his dream date - Isabel, who is in a red gown. Alex tells dream Isabel "I think that underneath that beautiful exterior is an even more beautiful interior. But I have a feeling that not too many people get to see that interior, do they? He tells her not to be afraid to show him the real Isabel. They dance elegantly. The real Isabel is touched by what she has seen and heard. The next morning, Max is angry at Isabel for invading Alex' dream but wants to know what she learned. She tells Max that Alex is a complex individual and he asks her why she is blushing. She says it's the heat and tells him she found out that, of all the people involved, she is the one who can control him, with "just a little old fashion charm."

In the boys' room, Michael tells Max that things are getting complicated with Maria. That she wants to have conversations, talk about his feelings and now wants to go to a party together. "Like suddenly, the eraser room's not enough." That she should know it can't become public and all week long he's had this weird feeling that he was going to hurt her. "That just being who I am is gonna hurt her."

Max finds Liz in the biology lab trying to get two slugs to mate. Liz tells him she is hurt and wants to know why it's OK for Michael and Maria to be together but not them. He tells her he's afraid of it working out really well because he knows it's not meant to be and he couldn't bear for her to get hurt. She lets him know she's willing to take the risk and he's about to kiss her when the teacher comes in and asks Liz how she is doing with her mating ritual. Liz responds through gritted teeth "I was doing just fine!"

Isabel sees Alex in the hallway, flirts with him and tells him to meet her at the party at 8:00. At the party, Liz is looking for Max and Maria for Michael. Alex sees Isabel and comments on her outfit; she is purposely wearing red. She suggests they find someplace to talk. One of the guys at the party starts hitting on Liz and Max rescues her. Liz says she was afraid he wasn't coming and he says "I've been waiting for this a long time." They head for the dance floor. Maria finds Michael and tells him she doesn't understand why he's avoiding her and that it hurts. He says "Sorry, I can't get this involved. I'm alone and that's the way it's gotta be. Maybe we should've never started this." Maria leaves to "get some air." Isabel tells Alex that she likes that he's not like the guys who try to maul her, that she thinks she knows how he feels, that she can trust him, that they *all* can trust him. He realizes she just wants to know what he said to Valenti and gets angry, saying he was such a fool for believing she would actually be interested in him, then walks off. The hook ups for the music are overloading the circuits and we see smoke.

Amy and Valenti are having dinner together. She's telling him how she and Maria aren't as close as they use to be, that Maria use to tell her every detail of her life but now she's so guarded. That Maria and Alex use to be so close but now they hardly speak. Valenti is interested in the Alex situation but his questions are interrupted by a phone call about a disturbance across town, which requires his attention.

Liz and Max go outside for some privacy. They are about to kiss when Kyle spots them and asks if they are enjoying the party. Sirens are heard and then fire trucks and police cars arrive. Max and Liz go back in to find the others. Liz runs into Alex and tells him they have to leave. One of the organizers of the party hands them liquor bottles. Valenti sees them and places Liz, Alex and the organizers under arrest. In their cell, Liz tries to apologize to Alex but he's not interested in talking to her. The party organizers are released when their parents come and Valenti tells Liz and Alex their parents agreed with him. "Some time in jail might make the two of you remember what your priorities are." He then adds "Or maybe even just one of you." and leaves them alone. Liz tells Alex they need to get their stories straight. Alex shouts back, "I'm now in jail! I'm through lying!" Outside, Max and Isabel overhear the organizers tell their parents that the others weren't released. Isabel thinks they're screwed and that they should have told Alex. Back in the cell, Alex tells Liz he's done protecting her or anyone she associates with and he's going to tell Valenti everything he knows. Liz realizes she has to tell him the truth. She tells him that Max, Isabel and Michael are different and not from around here. She points upward when he asks where they're from and he thinks she means they are illegal aliens from Canada, so she tells him about the 1947 crash, the incubation pods, that they are under suspicion by the FBI, that Valenti knows she's involved and she's sorry but now he is too. She tells him it's been torture not being able to tell him and promises never to lie to him again. Valenti comes to talk to Alex and asks him about his involvement with Max, Isabel and Michael and what happened to Topolsky. Alex asks him what a 16 year old sophomore in high school could possibly have to do with Topolsky leaving. He tells him he knows they are not being held because of the party and says "I want out of here, right now. I demand it or I'm going to get a lawyer and I'm going to sue for abusive treatment or a minor. I may be 16, but I know my rights." Valenti releases them. Liz asks Alex how he feels about what she told him. He says he'd like some of the hallucinogens she's been taking, that he doesn't believe in aliens but he believes that she believes.

Max visits Liz on her balcony. He fears that just knowing him has screwed up her life. She tells him it's just the opposite and he thanks her. He tells her that he better go because if he doesn't things will change. He'll have to touch her hair and tell her that no matter what they go through it's all worthwhile for him because they're together. And then I'd have to do this." and he kisses her passionately.

SYNOPSIS - THE BALANCE

At the Crashdown, Liz is euphoric and having a great day, Maria is not. Max and Michael come in. Michael doesn't want to be there because he and Maria broke up, at least he thinks they did, however he's not sure, "it's confusing." The girls bring over some drinks, Liz says to Max "It's on the house" and Maria says to Michael "Yours is \$1.25." That ends the confusion so Michael gets up to leave and accidentally spills his drink and knocks Max' books to the floor. When he picks up the books he finds a drawing Max made of the cave painting River Dog showed him. Michael wants to know what he's hiding from him. Later, Alex sees Maria sticking toothpicks into an alien doll and says "Anyone I know?" He still doesn't quite believe what he's learned about the aliens and asks Maria why she believes. She tells him Max, dissolving the bullet and healing Liz, made her a believer so he decides to speak to Isabel to learn more.

At home, Max tells Isabel and Michael that he drew the symbols from memory, based on what he saw on the cave wall. He didn't tell them about it because the FBI was following them and he was afraid Michael would do something rash. Max asks Michael to leave it alone for now, they'll talk more about it when he gets back, then leaves to take Liz out for Chinese food. Michael ignores Max and goes to the reservation, meets Eddie and tells him he's looking for River Dog. Eddie tells him River Dog is involved in a sacred ritual, a sweat, an "intense spiritual cleansing" and leads him to the tent.

At the Crashdown, Alex asks Isabel to explain how they have human form and what their purpose is on Earth. Isabel responds "To wipe out the world, one annoying teenager at a time." She tells him they came out of the pods in human form, they have emotions, feel pain and have more questions about themselves than he does. They are just as human as he is except that they can manipulate the molecular structure of things and demonstrates it by changing ketchup in a bottle to mustard. She shows Alex the drawing Max made from the cave painting and tells him it's the closest connection they've ever had with their home.

At the sweat, several Native Americans are chanting, sitting around a fire, shirtless. Eddie and Michael remove their shirts and sit in the circle. Eddie tells him not to talk, just follow the chant. River Dog drinks from a bowl and passes it around the circle for each participant to do likewise, including Michael. He throws something on the fire causing sparks to fly and Michael to have a coughing fit so severe he has to leave the tent. Eddie says "I told you it was intense." and Michael says "What the hell was that?"

At the Chinese restaurant, Liz and Max play pool, have dinner, and dance. Liz mentions her parents are on a camping trip to observe Venus in the morning sky. Max says "I thought she was right in front of me." They are about to kiss when Maria interrupts to bring them back to the Crashdown, where Michael is lying on the floor, his head in Isabel's lap. He looks feverish and Isabel is very concerned. Cut to the back room of the Café, where Michael has recovered, he insists he's fine and he, Max, Isabel and Alex leave. Maria and Liz go up to Liz's bedroom and over ice cream, Liz admits to Maria that she and Max kissed the other night. Maria wants to compare notes and going first says "It was explosive. Like every cell in my body found the same cell in his and started heating up." Liz agrees and says she got dizzy and Maria says she gets dizzy just thinking about it. Liz says she didn't have any of those feelings with Kyle and Maria says "Doug Sohn in the 8th grade, amateur. Michael is the real thing." Liz wonders if they are feeling this way because of their non-human status and Maria wonders if they've ruined it for them with anyone else, especially since now, Michael wants no part of her life. Liz says he'll change his mind but Maria doesn't think so and it's just as well because she doesn't think a human/alien relationship will ever work and warns Liz not to get too involved. She refers to herself as "Teflon" and says Michael can't hurt her but Liz and Max have the whole "look into my eyes, soul mate thing" so she's more concerned for her.

The next day, Alex shows Isabel an exhibit at the UFO Center that has symbols similar to the ones she showed him last night. Isabel dismisses it as a hoax. Alex commits a faux pas by mentioning her home planet within hearing of others, causing Milton to berate him for joking about his beloved UFOs and Isabel to berate him for being so careless. There is a commotion elsewhere in the Center. Isabel, Alex, Max and Milton all rush over. Michael is on the floor, burning up, shivering and asking for Max. Max kneels down and sees that Michael's eyes have turned completely white. He puts sunglasses on him, explains to Milton that it's just a migraine and he, Isabel and Alex bring Michael to the Crashdown, through the back. Maria asks what's wrong with him and Isabel says they don't know, nothing like this has ever happened before.

They bring him up to Liz's bedroom. His temperature is 112°. Maria gets ice and towels to cool him down. Michael starts to chant then says "River Dog". Max and Liz go to the reservation. Eddie tells them River Dog is angry at them for telling someone what they found there, that River Dog tested him and he failed the test. Max wants to know what River Dog did to Michael. He says "I want answers before my friend dies." Eddie tells them he's not there so they decide to wait for him. Max tells Liz about how they all met in the desert the night they came out of the pods. He and Isabel met first; they communicated without speaking and they felt Michael's presence. Michael was afraid to approach them at first so he just watched. When he revealed himself, he was standing on a rock "Just like you'd expect from Michael - here I am, deal with me." He told them that trusting them was the hardest thing he ever had to do. They all saw the headlights; Isabel took Max' hand and Max held out his other to Michael but he wouldn't take it. They didn't see him again for 3 years. Max wonders if what's happening to Michael could ever happen to him. "What if it's just our life cycle. That maybe this is how we die."

At Liz's, Isabel and Maria argue about Michael's care and Isabel screams at Maria and Alex to leave; that Michael needs her, not strangers. Later, Maria brings her something to eat, with a bottle of Tabasco sauce, and tells Isabel she cares about Michael too. Michael goes into convulsions and Isabel tells Maria to get Alex. When the convulsions stop they give him some water and Michael starts having a vision. It's daytime; he's standing in the desert and the symbols from the cave painting are all around him in the sand. He looks up into a night sky and sees a V shaped constellation. He looks down and it's daytime again. He's standing on a rock, looking down into a crevice and sees a body covered in cobwebbing.

At the reservation, River Dog comes up to Max and Liz and tells them to bring Michael there "they may not have much time. They go back to Liz's and discover that Michael's body is covered in cobwebbing. At the cave, Michael has been placed in the center of a circle and the five of them are directed to stand at the end of each line that leads to the center. River Dog tells them about the man who referred to himself as a visitor, which in River Dog's language is Nasedo, so that's what he called him. He participated in a sweat and his reaction was the same as Michael's only much quicker, which is why River Dog thought Michael was not another visitor. River Dog, who was only a boy, followed Nasedo to the cave and found him dying. Nasedo had to trust him with his secret so that River Dog could heal him. River Dog gives each of them a crystal like stone and tells them the stones are from Nasedo's home and they carry an energy inside them, the same as in Nasedo's body; "He called it The Balance" and that the heat from the sweat disrupted it in some way. Nasedo told him to hold the stones until his own energy activated them and the balance would be restored but warned him there was a risk. "The balance can pull you in; it's a force that can change both your body and your mind unless you navigate it properly." He tells them to clear their minds and gives them a bowl of water that they each should drink from to begin the connection. When he reaches Liz he tells her he senses her fear, not of the healing, but for someone she cares for deeply. River Dog asks her to step back. He starts the chant and they all join in. The stones start to glow. Michael has a vision. He's in the desert, standing in the center of a circle with 5 spokes. At the end of each spoke are his friends. Alex steps forward and shakes his hand, Maria kisses him, Isabel hugs him, Max approaches, sees Liz enter the circle and smiles. Michael is on the rock looking at the body in cobwebs and sees that it's himself. Then it's Isabel and Max on the rock looking down at him. They all switch back and forth between being 16 and 6. Max reaches out his hand towards Michael, who breaks the webbing apart and reaches up. Their hands meet and Max pulls him up. The three of them walk off, hand-in-hand. The vision ends and Michael breaks free from the webbing and says "I went someplace, Max and I saw things." Isabel hugs him. He thanks Max and says "No more running, no matter what." He asks them all to give him the stones, goes to the cave painting and places the stones in holes in the wall. The stones light up and display the same V formation as the constellation. He says "It's a map."

Max visits Liz on her balcony and tells her that he can't keep pretending that he's normal and says "We don't belong together." Liz is devastated. He says "Ever since we kissed, I've been off balance. He tells her they need to take a step back to find their balance again. Liz kisses him goodbye.

SYNOPSIS - THE TOY HOUSE

Max and Diane are in the kitchen; he's teasing her about going wild adding garlic to the meal she is preparing; she is quizzing him about his lab partner Liz. Diane unknowingly tips over a bottle of vegetable oil. The oil travels across the range top towards the open flame and then the entire cooking surface bursts into flames, shooting towards the ceiling. Diane falls back and Max uses his powers to extinguish the flames, then throws a pot of water on the debris to hide his actions. Diane did not have a full view of what Max did. The security system alerts the fire department and Sheriff Valenti, who is skeptical that Max put out the fire with one pot of water. Later, Max tells Isabel he doesn't think their mom saw anything but he thinks their mom may be Valenti's next project. They also discuss his decision to back off his relationship with Liz. Isabel thinks it was a very good idea. Max is still trying to accept that he made the right decision. At the Crashdown Café, Liz tries, unsuccessfully, to convince Maria that she is OK with Max' decision to cool their relationship.

At school, Michael learns about what Max did and tells him that she can't find out, "adults are the enemy."

At home, Diane is watching a video of Max and Isabel when they were six years old, chasing birds in the park. Diane starts asking Isabel about why Max is so secretive and if she's ever noticed her brother do something she couldn't explain. Isabel says no and leaves for the high school basketball game. At the game, Isabel pulls Max aside to tell him about their mother's suspicious questions and that she thinks she was looking for something in the video. Isabel wants to tell her the truth. Michael interrupts and says no way and Max agrees with Michael. Liz distracts Kyle while he's playing and he trips and breaks his ankle.

The sheriff visits Diane and brings up the shooting incident at the Crashdown and Max' possible involvement, of which Diane is unaware, but he does not elaborate. He then gives her a pamphlet on household emergencies, says he highlighted the section on grease fires, and leaves.

At school, Michael is watching Maria trying to make a napkin holder for her woodworking class. It's not going well and he comes over to give her some advice, which she doesn't want. She continues to snap at him and he asks what he's done to make her so mad and she explains it's what he hasn't done. That after all she went through to help him when he was so sick, he never even said thank you. He says "Thank you." and she tells him it's too late.

Liz, feeling responsible for Kyle's injury, brings him a pie and study notes. He's not friendly so she leaves.

That evening, Max is painting the burn marks on the ceiling. His mother tells him the pamphlet explains that water does not put out a grease fire, it makes it spread. She wants to know how he really put it out. Isabel interrupts their conversation and she and Max go out. Isabel tells him they have to tell their mother the truth, that he doesn't understand how important it is to her to be honest with her mother. She feels that the truth will bring them closer together but Max disagrees. Isabel says "What are you saying, that if we tell Mom the truth about us, she won't love us anymore?" Max replies, "I'm saying we'll never know the answer to that question." Isabel tells him it's not just his decision. He says he knows, she says "Do you?"

The next day at home, Diane asks Isabel what she remembers before they were adopted. Isabel tells her she remembers being at the orphanage and the day they came to pick them up. That Diane was wearing a yellow sweater and she represented the sun to her. She tells her "The day that you and daddy came for us, that's when our lives began."

At school, Michael tells Maria her "tactic" to get him to feel indebted to her will not work. He grabs her napkin holder and tells her he will use his powers to improve it and call it even. She tries to take it back and it breaks. He wants to know what her problem is. She replies "It's cheating. You can't just wave your hand over a problem and make it go away." And she asks him "Why can't you just piece together an apology like any normal human being...oops, maybe *that's* the problem."

Kyle comes to the Crashdown on crutches and apologizes to Liz for making their break-up more difficult. That after watching a segment on Sally Jessy about exes on a rampage, it gave him some perspective and

he is hoping they can be friends. Liz is pleased with his change in attitude. He then requests something high in both fat and cholesterol and lacking any nutritional value for lunch. Max sees them bonding, through the window of the Café, and changes his mind about going in.

The sheriff asks Diane to come down to the station. He shows her the report on the shooting at the Crashdown and tells her that two tourists said they saw Liz get hit with the bullet and Max heal her.

At home, Diane is playing the video again and she shows Max where in the video he picked up a bird with a broken wing, healed it just by holding it and released it to fly away. She tells him she always wondered about that incident but since there was no way it could be explained she tried to forget about it. The kitchen fire brought it all up again. Max feels cornered and doesn't know how to explain it without telling her the truth so he lashes out at her - "You're suppose to be my mother, you're not suppose to investigate us." She pleads with him to just tell her. He shouts back "Mom, no!" and leaves.

At a quarry, Max tells Isabel and Michael about healing the bird in the video. Michael wants to destroy the video, that it will be her word against theirs. Isabel reminds him he's referring to their mother and he reminds Isabel that she's *not* her mother. Isabel says if there's any adult they can trust it's her and that perhaps it would be good to have an adult on their side. Michael tells her that if she learns the truth she won't be on her side because there's no such thing as unconditional love. Max says they are not telling her and Isabel tells him to stop speaking like he's the final word on everything. Max says "Michael's right, she's not our mother. We are alone here; we always will be. Stop pretending it's different."

At school, Maria finds a very nice napkin holder in her locker with a note - "Handmade by Michael. Thanks." Maria is *very* pleased. Michael comes up to her later and asks how she did on her assignment. She tells him she flunked. He is incredulous because he worked very hard on the napkin holder and felt he had done a very good job, that "it redefined the term napkin holder." Maria tells him she didn't use his napkin holder for her school project because she kept it for herself, then says "Thank you." He is pleased but then tells her that if anything happens to him again, she should not help him. He can't get entangled and indebted, he has to be a stonewall and when he's around her he doesn't feel like a stonewall, he feels confused. Maria says "Like, human?" and he replies "Yeah, and I don't want to feel that way."

Max goes to the Crashdown after closing to tell Liz that he saw her with Kyle and it's OK with him if they are getting back together. She tells him they're not but if they were she wouldn't need his permission. He tells her she sounds like Isabel telling him he's controlling. Liz replies that he is controlling. Max, losing control, shouts at her "I am what I am. I've got a lot going on and I'm trying to make things work." Liz tells him he puts everything on himself and that he needs to have more faith in the people around him.

The next day, Max finds his mother at the park. Diane asks him if he ever thought of finding his real parents. That maybe she and his father are not enough for him. With tears in his voice, Max tells her he doesn't think he'll ever find his real parents, maybe it would give them some answers but "Please don't ever think that you're not enough...without you I don't know where I'd even be." She tells him "Nothing you are could ever turn me away from you...I love you and you're my son, do you understand that? He does so she asks him why he can't tell her his secret. He hands her a toy house that she had given him when he was first adopted because he was homesick. She had told him it was a magic house and if he held on to it, it would take him home. He tells her it could never take him home because he doesn't know where home is. He pleads with her not to ask him about it anymore. He says "It's nothing bad, it's nothing dangerous. I beg you to trust me. I mean, you're my mother. Please Mom." She hugs him.

Max meets Isabel at the quarry. He tells her everything is going to be OK with their mom. She asks if he told her and, when he says no, she breaks down crying. He holds her and tells her they're going to be OK, they have each other.

SYNOPSIS - INTO THE WOODS

Out in the woods, a young couple are making out in the back of a pickup when they are interrupted by a brilliant flash of light. The charge from the light causes a surge in the electricity in town.

At the Crashdown, Jeffrey mentions to Liz that they don't get to talk anymore and suggests they go to the school sponsored father's camping weekend. Liz is reluctant, feeling she has outgrown it. Milton rushes in and asks Liz where her "boyfriend" Max is and says "There's been a sighting!"

At the UFO Center, Milton shows Max on a map where the sighting occurred - Fraiser Woods, near the reservation. He's sure it's not a hoax because 5 people saw it and the sheriff's dept is taking it seriously.

At school, Maria garners a lot of attention from the boys by wearing an aqua bra, which enhances her physical attributes. Alex is passing out flyers for the father's camping weekend and gives one to Isabel. He asks her if aliens like the cinema and then apologizes for using "the 'A' word". He asks her if she would like to go to a Fellini retrospective on Friday and she says no. He's disappointed but then she suggests that they go to a regular movie instead and he is elated. Isabel leaves to meet Max and Michael in the eraser room. Max tells them about the information he got from Milton on the sighting, that it's near the cave, and suggests they need to get there before Sheriff Valenti, in case there is something to find. Max suggests that he and Isabel go on the camping trip as a cover. Michael says "Guess that let's me out." and leaves.

At home, Liz's father convinces her to go on the camping trip so they can spend time together and so he can meet Max, Isabel and Michael. Liz says she doubts they will be there.

Michael has an argument with Hank about there being no milk; Hank tells him to use beer. Michael starts to take off, then sees River Dog, who asks Michael if he saw "it" and tells him it was real because he's seen it before.

At the Crashdown, Liz tries to convince Maria to come with them on the camping trip because she doesn't want to spend the weekend alone with her father asking her all kinds of questions about Max, Isabel and Michael. Maria relents only when Liz offers to pay her and do her math homework for a week. Liz, coming down with a cold, sneezes and Maria offers her some echinacea. Liz's father sees Liz passing Maria money and Maria passing Liz "drugs" and gets suspicious.

Kyle goes to the sheriff's station to meet his father so they can go out and get a new tent for the weekend but his father tells him he needs to find any evidence at the sighting before anyone else does so he won't be able to go. He suggests that Kyle still go with Coach Clay. Kyle is disappointed that his father considers the sighting more important than spending time with him, since they spend so little time together as it is.

At the Crashdown, Michael tells them what River Dog told him and speculates that maybe River Dog is Nasedo and also their father because he knows so much about them and he "remembered" how to heal Michael after all those years. Alex tells Liz about his pending date that night with Isabel. He tells her "It's totally amazing...it's too amazing. Oh God, it's a joke, isn't it. It's a practical joke. You two are in on it, you bastards!" Liz tells him his "paranoid schizophrenia" is kicking in. Alex agrees and says he's going to the restroom to have a little talk with himself. Max and Michael go up to the cash register to pay their bill and Maria suggests to Liz that they make it appear they have moved on with their lives by lying to them. She tells them that she and Liz have dinner dates with college guys that weekend. Max and Michael leave. Maria sees Alex go sit with Isabel and says "Oh great, another one being sucked into the alien abyss." Isabel tells Alex they have to cancel their plans because her father is insisting they go on the camping trip. Alex is disappointed but recovers quickly and says he was about to tell her the same thing.

Alex meets his father, who is totally unprepared for the trip and amazed that Alex wants to go, in the school parking lot. Phillip is also surprised that Max and Isabel want to go camping but he's glad they are joining in on a school activity. Maria and Liz see Max and run behind one of the buses to come up with an alibi. Maria suggests they tell Max the guys had to cancel but they're meeting them next week in

Albuquerque. Liz is not happy that Maria has got her involved in this fantasy life. Valenti surprises Kyle by coming after all. Max sees Liz and Maria and teases them about their alleged dates.

At the camping grounds, Alex and Sheriff Valenti purposely choose sites near the Evans family and then Valenti invites the Parkers to join them. That evening Kyle tells Liz and Maria a UFO story he heard from his grandfather. Jeffrey, Phillip, Max and Alex's father play poker. Max uses his powers to change his cards to let Jeffrey win. Isabel points out the various constellations to Alex. He tells her that looking at the stars with her is so much better than seeing a movie. She is touched by this but when Alex talks about their date being canceled, Isabel realizes he's reading more into their relationship than she and explains that she can't date him, they can only be friends. Liz acts polite but not friendly around Max so he tells her he just wanted their relationship to slow down, "not screech to a halt." Liz tells him she knows he's there because of the sighting and asks why he isn't including her.

River Dog goes to Michael and tells him "It's time." Back at the camp grounds, Jeffrey finds the pills in Liz's bag and asks her what they are. She explains and he tells her that he feels he's not a part of her life anymore. Later that evening, after everyone has turned in, Isabel and Max leave for the cave. Liz sees them and follows. Max notices and tells her to go back. Liz pleads with him not to leave her out of it. Maria finds them and thinks Max and Liz are there for a romantic tryst and is surprised to hear the sighting was real. Max and Isabel take off. Liz tells Maria she's going with them. Maria says to Liz "You can't let go of him, can you." and Liz replies "I don't want to." Maria agrees to go with her. Valenti is following the four of them. An hour later, they run into one of the police investigation groups using search dogs. Liz and Maria stay behind to act as decoys so Max and Isabel can continue to the site.

Meanwhile, River Dog is escorting Michael to the site. He trips and breaks his ankle. Michael asks him why he doesn't heal himself and River Dog says "You think I'm Nasedo?" Michael points out all he knows about them and asks "Why would you want to help us if you weren't..." River Dog replies "I'm sorry Michael, but I'm not your father." Michael is disappointed but acquiesces. He puts his hand on River Dog's ankle to heal it and while doing so sees visions similar to those he had when River Dog was healing him. When the ankle is healed, River Dog tells Michael "Now we're even." and Michael replies "I don't think we'll ever be even."

An officer brings Maria and Liz back to Jeffrey and Phillip asks if he saw Max and Isabel but he says no. In the background, Milton is being hustled into a police car exclaiming that he's a scientist and they are all in grave danger.

Max and Isabel get to the site. Valenti is watching them when Kyle comes up to him. He wants to see what is more important to his father than him and wants to know why his father is hunting Max. Kyle points out that he is playing the same role his father played when Valenti Sr was obsessed with chasing spacemen. Kyle says "Now I know why you never wanted to see Grandpa again because to him, you were just a low priority." Kyle leaves. Max and Isabel meet River Dog and Michael. They find a symbol, like one in the cave, burned into the grass. When they put their hands over it, it glows. River Dog tells them it's a sign, meant for them. Michael says it means Nasedo is back. Valenti approaches. Michael stops him and Valenti tells him to get out of his way. River Dog tells Michael to do as Valenti says and Michael steps back. Meanwhile, Max uses his powers to remove the symbol from the grass. Valenti knows something was there and asks what they were looking at. Max replies that they've been lost for hours and thanks the sheriff for finding them, then Max, Isabel and Michael leave.

At a health care institution, Valenti observes his father from the doorway of the visiting room then goes in to talk to him. They discuss that it's been a long time. The sheriff tells his father "Maybe you were right all along and I'm sorry." His father is having difficulty eating his meal so he helps him.

SYNOPSIS - THE UFO CONVENTION

Roswell 10th Annual Convention - Day One. The festivities are in full swing, carrying over into the street outside the UFO Center. Someone in an alien costume is on the street handing out flyers. The alien is observing Liz, who is serving customers seated outside the Crashdown Café; we hear heavy breathing.

Sheriff Valenti goes into his office and finds Everett Hubble waiting for him. Valenti tells Hubble he's not welcome there. Hubble sees a picture of Kyle on Valenti's desk and comments that he is a bachelor with no kids. He then tells Valenti to give his father his regards and leaves. Deputy Hanson asks "Who was that?" and Valenti replies "a bonafide alien hunter."

Inside the UFO Center, at the Convention, Michael and Isabel see the alien from outside come downstairs saying "Save me, I'm a human trapped in an alien body." He then removes his alien head and Max is revealed. Isabel says "You realize that we've just lost our last shred of dignity."

Inside the Crashdown, Liz waits on Larry Trilling and Jennifer Catler, the two tourists who were at the Crashdown during the shooting and saw Max heal Liz. Larry asks her what really happened that day.

At the UFO Center Max asks Michael how he deals with Maria because he can't stop thinking about Liz. Michael says it wasn't easy for him either, that Max needs to throw himself into something to get his mind off it. Later, Max tells Milton he would like to take on more responsibilities for the Convention.

Michael sees Maria hanging a sign for the Alien Takedown wrestling match that her mother sponsors. Michael refers to it as a "freak show", within earshot of Amy, who takes exception to his remark, saying the "freak show" keeps the two of them "off the streets". Maria introduces them and Amy leaves. Maria says "Great first impression." and Michael replies "Why would I want to make an impression."

Milton introduces Max to Hubble as a legend who has made direct contact. Max asks what the alien looked like and Hubble replies "You, or me, they're not little green men you know." then leaves. Milton tells Max to try to convince Hubble to speak at the Convention.

Valenti is going through his father's old belongings, which include a Dec 8, 1972 newspaper with the headline: Roswell Sheriff Taken In For Questioning For the Silo Murder.

Max is manning the information booth at the Convention. He is watching Liz descend the stairs. Michael notices and tells him to think of mud when he's with her, that it helped him. Liz says she needs to talk about the luncheon they are catering. She tells him that Larry and Jennifer are back and that Jennifer has become a permanent fixture at the Café but Max isn't listening. He's just watching Liz, as if she was in slow motion. Max says "Mud" then covers himself by saying he was thinking of mud pies for the luncheon.

Valenti comes up to Hubble outside the UFO Center and accuses him of pushing his father over the edge and being responsible for Valenti Sr's commitment to a mental institution. He demands that Hubble leave. Hubble reminds him that, because of his father's diminished capacities, he is Valenti's only link to what actually happened at the silo; he was there. He says they can help each other. Max overhears them.

Day Two of the Convention. Michael asks Max to introduce him to the "real guys" who might have information about their past. Max says there are no real guys and avoids introducing him to Hubble. Max looks up Hubble on the computer and finds information about a drifter being killed at a silo.

Valenti visits his father at the hospital and asks about Hubble's involvement at the silo murder. Valenti Sr says "He couldn't let go of his wife, that was his problem all along. His wife and his kid." Valenti says "He didn't have a wife and kid." His father's mind drifts off the subject.

At a Convention conference, Larry steps up and begins to tell the story of the Crashdown shooting. Michael steps forward and pretends to bump into Larry. Larry starts itching and scratching all over and looks and

acts like a fool, causing his story to lose all credibility. Larry is dragged out screaming that Max is the guy. Hubble comes up to Larry outside and says "Tell me what you saw."

Day Three of the Convention. Amy is frantic; she is on the phone with Ernie, one of her wrestlers, who is canceling an hour before the event. She tells him half her annual revenue is tied up in this and if he cancels she'll be broke. He hangs up on her. Michael overhears the conversation. Amy leaves crying.

At Valenti's home, Hubble shows him several pictures he's collected of corpses with a silver hand print on their bodies. Unexplained murders occurring across the southwest for the last 40 years. He tells him his father wasn't crazy he was just trying to catch a killer. He says they should band together to stop this killer and asks him about Max.

Alex, who has been following Isabel around, visits her at home to bring her a book on constellations. Isabel tells him his obsession with her is suffocating so he leaves. He goes to the Crashdown and asks the ladies if they think men are obsessive. Liz, Maria, Amy and Jennifer all express their views. Milton comes in to ask Amy why she isn't at the match, which is almost over. She rushes over thinking Ernie came through for her. She gets to the ring and the winner is bragging about his easy conquest. Amy and Maria go to the wrestler lying on the mat to see if "Ernie" is OK but it turns out to be Michael, who says he's just resting. Amy calls him a "dear, dear boy", gives him a hug and leaves. Maria smiles at him and he tells her "It was easy money." Maria gives Michael a tender kiss, which he starts to respond to but then pulls back and says "Mud." Maria says "What?" and Michael says "Mud, I'm thinking about mud." Maria replies "Why do I even try?"

At his office, Valenti is going over the photos Hubble gave him and he notices a license plate number on the car next to a woman's body. He looks it up on his computer and discovers the car was registered to Sheila Hubble in 1970. Valenti goes to his father and tells him he knows that Hubble's wife was murdered by a drifter who left a silver hand print on her body, just like the corpse of 1959. He learns from his father that he helped Hubble find the drifter but thought he was only going to question him, not kill him. He tells his son not to trust Hubble.

Hubble tells Max he will speak at the Convention but he needs a ride to his motel to pick up his slides. Michael learns from Larry that he told Hubble what he knows about Max and Michael sees Max leaving with Hubble.

In the jeep, Hubble tells Max how much he loved his wife, that when they kissed it was like fireworks on the 4th of July. Max admits he had a similar experience. Hubble says that for his first anniversary he was going to surprise his wife with fireworks and they stopped at Pepper's Café for matches. Hubble asks Max to pull up to the abandoned Café and they get out of the jeep. Hubble tells Max that he lost his wife and unborn child that day, all because of him. He pulls out a gun and accuses Max of being the shapeshifting alien that killed his wife. Max is terrified and tries to convince him he's not the same guy. Hubble tells him that Valenti told him about the healing and the hand print. Michael calls out, distracting Hubble and Max tackles him to the ground, causing him to drop the gun, which he reaches for. Max uses his telekinetic powers to move the gun out of reach, just as the sheriff pulls up. Hubble throws Max off of him and goes for the gun. Valenti approaches, gun drawn, and tells Hubble to drop his gun. Hubble tells Valenti he saw Max use his powers, that he is going to kill Max and nothing is going to stop him. He tells him "Your father couldn't do it and neither can you." Valenti shoots and kills Hubble. Valenti tells Max he didn't realize Hubble was this dangerous. Max, losing control, lashes out saying "What did you tell him? Why did he come after me? You're the sheriff, you're supposed to protect me but all you've done is go after me. You believe all these crazy things, you're just like Hubble! You want me? Well here I am! Take me." Michael tries to calm him down but he brushes him off. Valenti says "Son..." and Max asks "Would you treat your son this way?" Valenti tells Max and Michael to go. He says "You were never here." Michael tries to convince Max that Hubble was crazy but Max thinks Nasedo may have killed a lot of people.

SYNOPSIS - BLIND DATE

At the Crashdown Café, Alex tells Liz and Maria that his band, the Whits, is auditioning for the KROZ Blind Date Concert.. The KROZ DJ comes into the Crashdown and announces the winner of the Blind Date contest is Liz. She was unaware that Maria entered both of them in the contest and is not very pleased, so when the DJ asks what's going on in her mind right now, she replies "Nothing I can say on live radio."

At school, Liz and Maria notice Alex posting a notice for a new singer for his band because his regular, Wendy, has mono and they need someone for the audition. Maria volunteers. Alex is hesitant; he wants someone with more experience than Karaoke but he tells her to come to that afternoon's practice session. The girls at school crowd around Liz to congratulate her for winning the contest. Kyle comes up to Max, who is watching Liz, and tells him he knows his pain. Max says he's fine and Kyle says he was in denial too when they first broke up. Max says they didn't break up because they were never together. Kyle says "She really did a number on you didn't she." and then equates Liz to a man-eater.

Maria arrives at Alex's practice session and gives them sheet music for her songs, which are pop songs, and they play alternative music. She tells them if they want to pass the audition they need to play what the radio station likes. They don't appreciate her telling them what to do but agree to hear her sing.

At the Crashdown, Michael tries to convince Max and Isabel they need to use the map in the cave painting to find Nasedo. Max is against the idea because he doesn't think they should be trying to find a murderer. Michael leaves and Isabel tells Max he shouldn't destroy Michael's hope, it's all he has. The radio DJ conducts an interview to determine Liz's criteria for her blind date, which ends up sounding a lot like Max - a serious, dark haired, mystery man from an exotic place.

Behaving like a prima donna, Maria is late for the audition and then tells the auditioners that it's her band, which upsets Alex.

Liz is dressed for her blind date and is doing a final check in her mirror (she looks beautiful), when she sees Max on her balcony. She goes out to him and he tells her "I couldn't just let you find another guy. I love you, Liz." They kiss lovingly. Then car horns down below break her reverie and Maria comes in and tells her "true love awaits". Liz comes downstairs and meets Doug Shellow, a very attractive college student. Max is listening to the DJ describe the meeting then turns off the radio. Kyle stops by Max' with his friends. They've all been drinking. Kyle wants Max to come with him to check out Liz's dream date and he tells Max he'll either have to drive them or let them sleep on his lawn. He takes the car keys.

Liz and Doug are having dinner while the DJ gives a play by play of their conversation. They both admit they were hoping for a normal date. Many townfolk, including Max and Kyle, are outside the restaurant watching through the window. The DJ asks them to kiss and Doug dips Liz back and kisses her while the townfolk cheer. Max looks stricken. Doug whispers to Liz "Out the back, through the kitchen on three; they'll never catch us." and they take off. Kyle offers Max a drink from his flask. Max tells him he doesn't drink but Kyle convinces him and he takes one sip. He becomes drunk immediately. Kyle calls him a wussy so Max challenges him to a race, then takes off before Kyle is ready.

Michael comes for Isabel. He tells her he figured out how to read the map. They drive to the library. He tells Isabel that the constellation he saw in his dreams is Aries the Ram and when Aries is directly over Roswell all the symbols on the cave wall take on locations. He has chosen the symbol that is the library.

Kyle finds Max sitting on the roof of a building and tells him to get down before he gets hurt and everyone blames him. Max tells Kyle he's glad he got drunk because now the real Max can come out. He admits to Kyle that he and Liz are in love but doesn't know why they're not together. Kyle says they are both losers and Max suggests they try to win her back by showing her how they feel about her. Kyle asks how they are going to split her up "Every other week? Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and alternate Saturdays?"

On the grass in front of the library, Michael lays out some rope in the shape of the symbol and pours gasoline on it. Isabel tells Michael she's afraid if he finds Nasedo he won't need her and Max anymore. Michael tells her that's impossible, then ignites the rope.

On Liz's balcony, behind Kyle's back, Max uses his powers to draw a heart shape with an arrow and his and Liz's initials on her wall. Kyle turns and sees the heart and says "Nice. Girls always like that meaningful stuff. I suck at that." Kyle wants to know how far he got with Liz and Max tells him "We saw into each other's soul." then sighs. Kyle says "second base"; Max replies "Well, we can't win them all." Max is about to leave when Kyle stops him. They can't leave because they're at Mecca - Liz's bedroom.

Liz and Doug go to the Crashdown so they can talk without a crowd. A while later, the KROZ van pulls up to the Crashdown so Liz and Doug run upstairs. In Liz's bedroom, Max uses his powers to change photos of Alex and Maria into himself in a picture on Liz's desk. Kyle is going through her underwear drawer. Liz and Doug come in. Max tells her that he and Kyle are really, really drunk. Doug asks Liz who they are and Kyle says "the exes, the rejects." Max says they are there to win her back. Liz asks Kyle "What did you do to him?" and Max tells Kyle not to tell her anything they said tonight because it's private. Kyle says his secret is safe with him. Liz tells Kyle that everything Max told him tonight was a lie because Max makes things up when he's drunk. Max says "But this is the first time I've ever been drunk." Liz takes Max out onto the balcony and Kyle prevents Doug from following. Max shows her the heart; he touches it and it lights up. The radio DJ and crew come up to the bedroom to see Kyle wrestling with Doug on the bed, the heart on the balcony wall and Liz and Max going down the balcony ladder. Liz tells Max to stop running. Max tells Liz "Let's just keep running. You and me; away from here, away from everything....As long as we're together, nothing else matters." Liz points out that Max is drunk and nothing he's saying is true. He tells her "It's all true; it's how I really feel. It's all just magic when I think about you." Max touches a lamppost and the lights dance around like in a ballroom. Liz is afraid someone will see. "and when I'm not with you, I go crazy." He touches a car and the alarm goes off. "When you're here..." The alarm changes to music box music. "You're my dream girl, Liz." Liz says "And what if I believe you tonight?" Max replies "Then we will live happily ever after." Liz says "And then what about tomorrow when you go back to realizing who you really are and all of your fantasies go away?" The ballroom lights stop. Max says "I'll still have you." Liz says "This could never be normal, Max." Max touches the parking meters one by one and they turn into sparklers. He says "What's so great about normal?"

At the library, the signal has burned out and Isabel removes the marks. Michael is discouraged and says "Forget it, he's not going to come." Isabel says "Maybe not tonight." and Michael says "Not ever; no one ever comes for me." Isabel says "I will; whenever you need me." They walk off arm in arm.

Liz is at a pay phone calling for a taxi. She tells Max to "stay" but he ends up flagging down the KROZ van. At the concert, Maria and Alex's band come out on stage and Maria walks right off again. She is suffering from stage fright. Alex tries to calm her down. The KROZ DJ arrives and comes out on stage with Liz, Doug, Kyle (who he keeps referring to as Lyle) and Max. The DJ tells the audience that it's the strangest blind date he's ever been on because Liz's *two* ex-boyfriends joined it. Max points at Doug and says "I think you'd look better as a blonde." and Doug brushes Max' hand away just in time. The DJ wants her to choose one of them and asks each guy to speak up for himself. Doug says "I thought you just wanted a normal date." Kyle says "I'm just happy to be nominated, and I think I'm going to puke." and he leaves the stage. When it's Max' turn, he takes her in his arms and gives her a very romantic kiss. We see visions of their times together. Max sobers up, says he's sorry and leaves the stage. Liz goes after him and asks him if he meant everything he said tonight. Max says he can't remember what he said and hopes he didn't ruin her night, then leaves. Maria and Alex go on stage and perform "In the Air Tonight". We see a flashback of Liz and Max under the lamppost with the ballroom lights flashing. Then we see Max up on Liz's balcony, alone, touching the heart to light it up.

At the library, a man in a trench coat goes to the spot where the signal was, waves his hand over it and it re-ignites. He takes a photo of Max, Isabel and Michael and places it in the flames. Then he walks away.

SYNOPSIS - INDEPENDENCE DAY

At school, Liz is waxing rhapsodic about her kiss with Max. Maria gives her a “grief relief” herbal remedy that “shocks the body into reality when the mind goes into overload.” Max approaches Liz but Isabel interrupts, says that Michael went into the restroom purposely to avoid her, and she wants Max to go see what’s wrong. In the restroom, Michael, avoiding Max, goes into a stall and tells Max to leave him alone. Max pretends to leave and when Michael comes out of the stall, Max sees he has a black eye. At the railroad tracks, Michael explains that Hank was drunk; it’s not the first time but it never left a mark before. He asks Max to heal it because he wasn’t able to. He tells Max he doesn’t want *anyone* else to know

At the Crashdown, Maria compares the charms of Max and Michael to a drug and tells Liz they “have to just say no.” Amy comes in with pies for the Crashdown. Sheriff Valenti flirts with her and convinces her to bake him a pie for this evening. Max tells Isabel about Michael’s abusive situation but tells her not to let Michael know he told. Michael comes in and sits with them, senses immediately that Isabel knows, gets angry and leaves. They follow him. Isabel mentions that her father, a lawyer, once helped a minor get permission to live on his own. Michael says getting the courts involved will bring them too much attention. She suggests he use his powers. He reminds her he doesn’t have control over his powers and he’s afraid, if he tries, he’ll kill him. She convinces him to stay with them until Hank calms down. Later, at dinner that evening, the atmosphere is tense. Michael’s table manners are not the best and when Phillip and Diane quiz Michael about Hank, Isabel keeps fielding the questions, prompting Phillip to tell Isabel to let Michael speak for himself. Michael has nothing to say.

Maria and Liz, coming in through the kitchen, see the remains of pie for two, the sheriff’s hat, and hear giggling from the living room. They panic, then Maria calls out to her mom that she’s home. Amy comes out to the kitchen, obviously flustered. Maria is shocked and asks her mother if she will be going to bed “alone” soon. Valenti comes out to the kitchen with lipstick on his cheek and his shirttail out.

The Evans family and Michael are playing Monopoly. It’s not going well for Michael and he doesn’t understand why Phillip won’t bend the rules for him since it’s just a game. Phillip says “In this house, we play by the rules.” Michael quits the game and leaves. Isabel goes after him and tries to convince him to speak up and tell her father the truth. Michael says he doesn’t want to be a poster child for domestic abuse. She tells him he has to do something, he can’t just pretend it didn’t happen. Michael leaves and Max comes out and tells Isabel to stop pushing Michael. That one evening can’t make up for what he hasn’t had in a lifetime. Isabel says she knows, she’s just really scared for him.

Amy comes to Maria’s room and says she needs her space. “I can’t feel like you’re judging me all the time.” Maria tells her she doesn’t trust Valenti. Amy reminds her there are very few eligible men in the area and Jim is a nice guy, with a good job and he’s fun. Maria says he’s the type that has to be tough all the time, can’t open up, show emotions or admit that he needs you and those are the most dangerous ones. Amy tells her not to worry, “Michael will come around.” Maria denies she was referring to Michael, she meant hypothetically. Maria says “Just take it slow, once they get physical, once they get what they want, they disappear.” Worried, Amy asks if she’s speaking from experience and Maria says “Just yours.”

Michael goes back to his trailer home and gets into a shouting match with Hank over laundry. Isabel and Max come in when they hear the yelling. Hank starts leering and making a pass at Isabel. He offers her a drink. She throws the drink in his face and screams at him “If you ever hurt Michael again, I will kill you.” Hank says “I don’t think so.”, grabs his rifle and points it at the three of them. Michael uses his powers to stop him, but they’re erratic so other things go flying across the room before he is finally able to point the rifle away from them. It goes off, Hank drops it in fright, calls Michael a freak and stares at him in terror. Max, Isabel and Michael leave. Outside, Michael tells Isabel she made it worse, now Hank knows. Isabel says he was too drunk to remember anything. Michael says now he can’t go back, it wasn’t much but it was all he had. Max tells him to come back with them and Michael points out that would only be a temporary solution and he doesn’t belong there; he doesn’t belong anywhere. Isabel says “Would it kill you to ask for help just once in your life?” Michael says “Yeah, you know what, it would.” and takes off.

Maria is sitting, looking out her bedroom window at the rain when she notices Michael standing there, looking very forlorn. She takes her “grief relief” and puts a few drops on her tongue, then takes the bottle and gulps it down. She looks out the window again and says “What are you doing out there?” He steps forward and she says “No, you can’t come in, no. I know why you’re here, I know what your plan is, I know what you want but it’s not going to work, mister, OK. No matter what you say. My answer is no. No, No, No, No, No, No!” He looks at her pleadingly. Cut to Maria towel drying Michael’s hair in her bedroom. She says “God, you could get pneumonia. Here, take your shirt off., you’re shivering.” As she continues to dry him off with the towel, she notices his face is wet, not just from the rain, but from tears and gently wipes one away. He is trembling from the effort to hold them back. She leads him over to her bed and he lies down. She gets on the bed and caresses him from behind, stroking him and softly saying ‘Shhh, it’s OK. You don’t have to tell me, it’s OK.’ He continues to try but fails to hold back the tears. The next morning, Amy comes to get Maria and finds them sleeping peacefully, with Maria lying across Michael’s back. She screams “Oh my God!”, throws Michael out and orders Maria to the kitchen. Maria tells her nothing happened, they just slept. Amy is skeptical. Maria reassures her, saying that Michael was very upset and sex was the last thing on his mind. Amy tells her she still shouldn’t have let him stay over, that she doesn’t want Maria to make the same mistakes she did, she wants a better life for her than she had.

In class, Michael is picked up by a deputy and taken to the station. Valenti tells him the neighbors heard an argument and gunshots, that Hank never showed up for work and that Michael was the last to see him. He then adds that the neighbors later heard “more sounds, screaming, crying, tortured sounds like an animal, almost inhuman.” Valenti asks Michael “Where were you, son?” Michael says “Out.”

At the Crashdown, Isabel comes in and asks Liz and Maria if they’ve seen Michael. She tells them about Hank’s abuse and that she’s really worried about him. Maria tells them he spent the entire night with her, he never told her what was wrong, they just slept, he took off when her mom found them and she hasn’t seen him since. Max comes in and tells them Hank is missing and Valenti is holding Michael.

Maria tells her mother about Michael being held because he won’t tell Valenti where he was last night and asks her to tell Valenti where he was. Amy does and Valenti releases Michael. Later, Amy tells Jim she needs to pay more attention to Maria right now and can’t afford distractions and he is very distracting.

At the railroad tracks, Michael tells Isabel and Max he needs to find his family so he’s leaving to find Nasedo. Max thinks Nasedo is dangerous, a shapeshifting killer, who could be anyone, and they need to stick together now, more than ever. Isabel is upset that Michael does not consider *them* as his family and lashes out at him as he leaves “Go on, run Michael, it’s what you do best.”

That evening, Max goes to Michael’s home and finds him packing. Max tells him he can’t say goodbye, that he, Isabel and Michael belong together, they are a family and no matter where Michael goes, they will always be connected. He gives Michael a package and tells him “Isabel and I wanted you to have this, it means nothing without you. Michael leaves and hitches a ride from a guy in a pickup. He opens the package, finds the crystal stones River Dog gave them, picks them up and receives flashes of images of himself, Isabel and Max together. The next morning, Michael is making breakfast for the Evans family. Isabel tells him she didn’t know he could cook and he replies “There’s a lot you don’t know about me.” Michael asks Phillip to help him live on his own and Phillip agrees to help Michael file a Petition for Emancipation. He goes with him before a judge, who makes sure Michael realizes that he will be completely responsible for his “financial, medical and educational decisions” and then grants his petition.

Hank comes to see Valenti to explain away his absence and the gunshots. He tells him he’s leaving town without Michael and wants to know if he has to sign anything. Valenti says it’s already been taken care of. That night, Hank drives into a wooded area, opens the back of the station wagon, drags out and buries the body of a man that looks just like him, gets back into the car and shapeshifts into a Hispanic male.

SYNOPSIS - SEXUAL HEALING

Liz is in the shower of the girls' locker room at school. Suddenly, Max walks in and they stare at each other passionately. Cut to the Crashdown Café where Maria wakes Liz from her reverie and she tips over a bowl of strawberries. Max comes in and helps her pick up the strawberries and follows her into the back room. He questions her to find out if she's upset with the way he behaved while drunk and wants to know if they are still friends. He wants to be *more* than friends, so he grabs her in an embrace and kisses her more passionately than ever before. Liz sees a vision of a star system while kissing. She is totally blown away by the experience and has trouble putting it into words when explaining it to Maria shortly after.

At school, Max too seems blown away by the whole thing as he relates the experience to Michael. Max goes into his science class, sits next to Liz and passes her a note to meet him in the eraser room at 6th period. Liz purposely drops her pencil so Max can pick it up and while down there he touches her hand, causing her to have flashes of the star system and to experience orgasmic pleasure, which does not go unnoticed by the rest of the class nor the teacher, who gives them both detention in his class after school.

Maria meets Michael and asks him if he's heard of Liz's flashes. They decide to do some "experimenting" of their own. Maria tells Michael that she sees a sunset near the rings of Saturn. Michael tells Maria that he saw her as a little girl trying to tie her shoelaces on red sneakers. Maria remembers the sneakers.

Max and Liz are making-out. Max is seeing flashes of Liz as a child playing dress up, then is momentarily startled. Liz is hurtling through space and crashing to Earth. Their passionate outcries are overheard and they are discovered when the eraser room door is opened. The Principal has summoned their mothers and informed them of Max and Liz's very vocal make-out session in the eraser room. Liz's mother tells her she is to come straight home after her last class and Liz has to tell her she has detention after school.

Isabel is having lunch and burns the roof of her mouth with her pizza. Alex comes by and mentions he's heard about the flashes and offers his services, in the interest of science. Isabel declines his offer.

Liz reports for detention and is examining a poster of a star system on the classroom wall. The teacher identifies it as the Whirlwind Galaxy. When Max arrives, the teacher hands them their detention assignments and leaves the room. Max and Liz kiss and then she points out the poster and tells him it is what she saw in her vision and that she thinks she saw the crash.

Nancy comes into Liz's bedroom to talk with her about boys and sexual intimacy and she tells Liz that she never has to lie to her about these things. Liz assures her that she and Max have not had sex.

At Michael's new apartment, Isabel is putting away groceries and Max is telling them about Liz seeing the crash and that he is seeing Liz's memories. Michael and Isabel ask him how he knows they're real and he says he doesn't. Michael wants to know what he's seen but Max says it's private. Isabel suggests he ask Liz to confirm they are real but he says he doesn't want to embarrass her. Michael says Max needs to find out and, in the meantime, he's going to pursue his own avenues.

Michael and Maria are making-out when Maria, feeling guilty, confesses to him that she faked the flashes she said she had before. Michael gets mad at her so she tells him that if he wasn't so defensive and didn't shut down all the time maybe it *would* happen. He tells her he lied about the flashes he had of her.

Maria and Liz are in the girl's locker room, heading for gym class, when Maria notices something on Liz's neck and tells her to check it out. Maria leaves for the gym and Liz heads towards the mirrors when she sees Max standing in the locker room. She asks him what he is doing there. He tells her he needed to find out if one of the flashes he had of her was real and looks towards the showers. Liz realizes he's referring to her fantasy about his watching her in the shower and is embarrassed. Max explains he wasn't sure if it was her fantasy or his own but he had never seen the girls' locker room before so he wanted to know if it looked the same as in the vision (which would confirm it was Liz's fantasy). He tells her that not only did he see the fantasy he also felt what she was feeling about him when she had it and he never thought anyone could ever feel that way about him. The gym teacher comes looking for Liz and they hide in one of the shower

stalls. The teacher leaves. Max notices what Maria saw on Liz's neck - a "glowing" hickey. Max touches her neck to remove the hickey and Liz has a flash of army troops in the desert.

At Michael's apartment, he and Isabel are discussing Liz's flashes and Michael hypothesizes that perhaps they find out who they are by connecting with humans. Max arrives and says Liz is coming over. Isabel and Michael prepare to leave and Max asks them why. They indicate they want Max and Liz to be alone to continue their research but Max doesn't like the idea of using Liz for experiments. Michael points out that they wouldn't be doing anything they didn't want to do anyway. As they leave, Isabel snaps her fingers and produces mood lighting with candles. Liz arrives and shows Max that the hickey has returned only this time it's not glowing, it's more like a rash. Max uses his healing powers again and removes the hickey but as he touches her skin, running his hand down her arm, he causes her skin to glow. Liz suggests that he remove his shirt and tries to make his skin glow but it doesn't work. Max tells her he's glowing on the inside. They start to heat up with the passion they feel for each other and discuss whether it's safe to give in to their feelings. They don't know the answer. Max doesn't want to hurt her but they are unable to stop. They begin to kiss passionately and move over to the couch. Liz hears a beeping sound and has a flash of the army troops near a transmission tower in the desert and something being buried. Maria walks in, looking for Michael, and finds Max and Liz lying on the couch in a passionate embrace. Maria drives Liz home and lectures her about not going too far with Max but Liz reveals that she wants to.

Liz climbs through her bedroom window and finds her mother waiting for her. They argue, with Liz asking her mother to stop trying to control her; that just because she's always done everything she wanted her to in the past, she shouldn't expect it to continue. Max comes by later to Liz's rooftop balcony. She tells him about seeing something being buried near a tower and shows him a picture she drew of it. He recognizes it as an old radio transmission tower by highway 42, near the sighting of the 1947 crash. They decide to go that evening to see if they can find what was buried. They arrive at the tower and lie down on a blanket to do some more "research". Max asks Liz if she is sure she wants to do this when Liz hears the beeping from her vision. They investigate and find the exact spot in her vision and start digging. They unearth a glowing orb with a symbol on it like on the necklace. They spend the night in the desert.

The next morning they are discovered missing. Isabel goes over to Alex's and tells him to kiss her to see if she can get a flash of where Max is. It doesn't work but Alex lets her know he's available anytime for further experiments.

Max and Liz wake up to find Nasedo, who does not identify himself, watching them. He tells them they are on private property and should go home.

Maria visits Michael to apologize for telling him it was his fault they didn't see the flashes; that it was her fault, she was afraid. She tells him she fakes all kinds of things, all the time, with everyone but he was the first one she admitted it to. Michael thanks her and tells her she was not the one that was shut down because she let him see her. He *did* see her tying her red sneakers and adds that they had a Kermit patch and blue shoelaces. He also saw her Dalmatian licking off her tears. She confirms that what he saw was real. That her dog died when she was 7, right after her father left. She tells him she didn't care about the flashes, she just wanted to be close to him. Michael puts his arm around her, says thanks, and kisses her on the forehead.

Max and Liz's parents are at the Crashdown Café discussing their behavior. Nancy suggests that perhaps they should be kept apart for a while. Max and Liz are parked outside the Café, kissing but neither of them has any flashes. Liz wonders if everything they felt was just about the orb. They start talking about their destinies and Liz asks Max "What's my destiny?" and he replies "I only know the part I'm hoping for." They then join hands and walk into the Café to find their parents waiting for them.

SYNOPSIS - CRAZY

At the Crashdown, Michael, working as a short-order cook, asks the girls to “push the special” because he’s “tired of flipping burgers.” Max and Isabel come in, Liz goes to Max and they kiss. Maria, envious of their relationship, says to Michael “Is that so hard? Acting like a real couple, kissing, arms around each other, actually excited to see one another.” Michael replies “Overrated.” Liz and Max make plans to see a movie and Liz asks Maria if she minds if she leaves early. When she steps away, Michael comments that they are just looking for a place to make-out and that he and Maria have his apartment for that. Maria and Michael exchange knowing looks and when Isabel says she’d like to order the special, they simultaneously say “We’re closing early.” Cut to Liz and Max, who have decided to forego the movie and are making-out in the jeep. Agent Topolsky bangs on the window. She is obviously distressed and says “You’re in danger, all of you. Best way to protect yourself is to just act like normal kids. I think I was followed. Don’t trust anyone. I’ll find you again.” She leaves. Max and Liz are stunned that she is back and by her behavior.

At Michael’s apartment, he and Maria are making-out on the couch, moaning each other’s name, when Maria says “Max.” Michael stops, looks at her and says “What!” She indicates that Max is standing over them. Michael is not pleased by the interruption. Max, Liz, Isabel and Alex are there. Max tells them about Topolsky. Liz says she thinks Topolsky was truly frightened and they should listen to what she has to say. Michael thinks it’s just a trap to get them to admit to who they really are. That they shouldn’t trust her. Max says whether they trust her or not they should still take her advice and act normal. They should refrain from talking about being aliens in public. He gives Michael the orb and says they should keep it there because it will be safer. Maria says she can’t believe Topolsky is back and it’s all starting again. Michael puts his arm around her to comfort her. Max comforts Liz.

At school the next day, Alex and Isabel are having lunch together and see Max and Liz being affectionate. Alex comments about Max and Liz and Michael and Maria having relationships and, all the kissing aside, it would be nice to have someone to hang out with that you share common bonds with. Tess Harding, a very attractive, new girl in school, asks if she can join them. Alex isn’t happy with the interruption but Isabel tells her to sit. Tess comments on how hard the first day at a new school is, that she’s been through it many times before, that the boys usually just want to jump her bones and the girls are afraid she’ll go after their boyfriends. She indicates that Isabel probably has the same problem and they compare notes. Isabel notices Tess adding sugar to her yogurt and Isabel says she does that too. They are obviously bonding over their similarities.

At Max’, Michael is telling Max that Maria wants more romance and he wants to make her happy so he asks for advice on what to do. Max suggests that he treat her like she’s the only girl in the room, leave her little surprises like notes in her locker, or give her a rose in the middle of the day, take her someplace nice. Tess walks in and asks Max how he knows women so well. Isabel comes in, introduces them, gets a couple of drinks for her and Tess and tells Tess she’ll meet her back in her room. Max and Michael are upset that she brought a stranger home. Michael points out she could be a plant. Isabel brushes off their concerns and says not to worry, she’s not going to “fall in love with her, tell her our secret and compromise our very existence.” She reminds them they are supposed to be acting normal.

At the Crashdown, Liz receives a delivery of flowers with a note saying “Meet me at Senor Chow’s in one hour. Alone.” Liz and Maria assume they are from Max. Liz says “He’s so romantic. He wants me to meet him at the restaurant where we had our first date. He just keeps on getting more and more wonderful everyday.” Cut to Liz entering the restaurant, being seated and waiting for Max. Topolsky, wearing a wig as a disguise, sits across from her. She is just as agitated as the previous night. She tells Liz that she has been to Hell and has learned and seen things no one would believe. She is there to warn them that there is an alien hunter working with the FBI, who answers to no one, that he will stop at nothing to get what he’s looking for and he’s looking for Max and everyone involved with him. All six of their names are on his list. She tells Liz “You have to believe me.” and Liz replies that she does. Topolsky feels as if she was followed so she tells Liz she will meet her tomorrow night behind the theater at 8:00. She’ll know more by then.

At school the next day, Liz tells Max about Topolsky and that all their names are on the list. Cut to the quarry where all six are discussing what to do. There is dissension in the ranks. Liz and Alex think they

should meet Topolsky. Michael doesn't believe there is an alien hunter and thinks that it's a trap. Isabel believes there's an alien hunter but doesn't trust Topolsky and doesn't think their human friends have as much to risk as they do. Maria suggests they put it to a vote. Max sides with Michael and Isabel. Michael assumes Maria will side with Liz and Alex and is pleased and surprised when she sides with him.

That night, when no one shows, Topolsky goes to Sheriff Valenti's home. She tells him she knows he killed Hubble to protect Max, that she spent 4 weeks being debriefed by Agent Pierce, head of the special unit of alien hunters, and, after what they did to her, she'd hate to think what they'd do to an enemy. She was told that now that she knew about the unit she was in it for life. But she doesn't want to be a part of it, she didn't join the FBI to kill people. She warns Valenti that he is on their list too and he could be destroyed. She says if he doesn't believe her he should try to ask Agent Stevens what happened to him when he tried to get out. "Pierce made an example out of him for the rest of us, piece by piece." She tells him he has to get the kids to trust her, "it's the only way." She leaves and Valenti tries calling the Bureau to talk to Stevens and is told that he no longer works there. He calls Stevens' home number and his distraught wife tells him he's dead.

Valenti visits Max at the UFO Center. He reminds Max that he protected him against Hubble. He wants him to know he is there to help and that he can be trusted. He tells Max that if anyone bothers him or any of his friends to let him know.

At the Crashdown, Michael suggests to Liz that he and Maria double date with her and Max tonight. Later, Liz and Maria are getting ready for their dates when Alex shows up with a video for their evening together. They explain they are going out with Max and Michael so when the guys arrive with Isabel, Alex goes to talk to her. Max gives Liz a gift of bubble bath in a gift bag, Michael gives Maria a gift of an economy size bottle of shampoo and conditioner in a paper bag. Maria tries to act pleased. They leave for their date. Alex and Isabel talk about what's going on and Isabel is surprised but pleased that Alex wants to protect her. He says "I'd do anything" and Isabel says no one, besides Max and Michael, ever said that to her before. Alex tries to convince Isabel that it's easier to deal with things when you have someone to talk to. Tess, once again, interrupts. Isabel and Tess have plans so Alex leaves. While he's walking home, a car with black tinted windows pulls up beside him. The passenger in the back rolls down his window a crack, just enough to talk. He says Topolsky sent him and tells Alex to get in the car. Valenti pulls up and the car drives away. Valenti offers to drive him home, "No questions asked."

At dinner, Michael's table manners are not the best and the others are visibly uncomfortable. When the checks arrive, Michael hands his to Maria and tells her she'll have to get this one because he doesn't get paid till Tuesday. Maria leaves the table and walks to the other side of the room. Max kicks Michael under the table. Michael goes over to Maria and asks what he did wrong so she gives him a list of things, including thinking only of himself. He replies "What I want to know is, if I'm such a loser, then why do you want to be with me?" She doesn't have an answer and he walks away. Cut to Michael coming home to find his apartment has been ransacked. Topolsky is there; she has found the orb. She tells him she knows what it is because there is another one that she took from the special unit evidence vault. It's a communicator but it will only work with the other one. She asks if he'll believe her if she risks her life to bring him the other one and she also wants him to promise that he will take her with him when his people come to get him. He tells her she's crazy. She says "Michael, we are all going to die and it's not going to be pleasant. We only have one chance. I will meet you tomorrow night at Buckley Point with the other communicator. If you ignore me this time, there won't be a next time." She leaves.

The next day, the six of them meet at the quarry. Alex tells them about the guy in the car and Valenti helping him. Max says there are five people in the world that he trusts and they are all standing right there. They can't afford to let anyone else in, not Valenti, not Topolsky and not the new girl at school, no matter how tempting. They all agree to not talk to anyone. The others walk off, leaving Michael and Maria alone. Maria apologizes for trying to make him be the perfect boyfriend. Alex' close call made her realize what was important to her and that he should go back to being himself. He hugs her then says "If anything happens, I mean to me, I just want you to know that..." She interrupts and says "I know" and they kiss.

Later that night, at the Crashdown, Maria catches Michael going through her locker. He tells her he's borrowing her car. She tries to get her keys back and discovers the orb in his pocket. She realizes he's going to meet Topolsky. He tells her not to tell the others. She insists on going with him and asks where the meeting point is. Saying she needs to get her jacket, she leaves a note telling where they've gone. Liz,

looking for Maria, finds the note. In the car, Maria tries to convince Michael that it's a bad idea and when that doesn't work she switches tactics and tells him she's changed her mind, she's afraid and doesn't want to go and he shouldn't be putting her in danger. She tells him to let her out and he says he's not going to leave her in the middle of nowhere. The others are following in the jeep. Alex doesn't understand how Michael could do this after they all agreed. Isabel says "Because he's Michael." Max, who is very angry, says "Well, that's no excuse this time." Maria opens the car door, forcing Michael to stop the car. She gets out and he follows her. She says "Michael, it's a mistake and if you're too stupid not to protect yourself, I'm gonna have to do it for you." He replies "It's not your decision to make, this is mine." Crying, she responds "It's not just about you. What you do effects me, that's how a relationship works and, whether you like it or not, we are in a relationship. OK, so go ahead and just hate me but I'm not gonna let you get hurt, all right. I care about you too much." The jeep pulls up behind them and Max storms up to Michael demanding he give back the orb. Michael holds it out of reach and says Topolsky told him it was a communicator. Max punches Michael in the face, knocking him to the ground and causing him to drop the orb. Michael, shocked that Max hit him, gets up and advances towards Max ready for a fight. Isabel steps in between them and two cars approach. A distinguished gentleman gets out of the first car and tells them that Topolsky will not be meeting with them tonight or any other night. Valenti gets out of his car and tells them this is Dr Malcolm Margolin and that he's been treating Topolsky at a mental hospital in Maryland for 6 weeks. Margolin tells them Topolsky is paranoid delusional, desperately afraid of things that don't exist. Valenti tells them he verified the doctor's story and it's probably safe to disregard everything she told them. Margolin says that Topolsky is on her way back to Maryland. Valenti and Margolin head back to their cars. Michael starts to look for the orb but Max says they'll get it later. Valenti sees it and picks it up. Max says "Nice job Michael" and walks off.

Margolin pulls into a gated area, shapeshifts into a hiker/pro prospector and leaves the car, carrying his gear. Cut to Topolsky who is at the meeting point and is abducted by the ones she had been trying to avoid.

SYNOPSIS – TESS, LIES AND VIDEOTAPE

At the Crashdown, Max and Liz are flirting, much to the chagrin of Isabel. Sheriff Valenti comes in to refill his thermos with coffee. Max and Isabel try to avoid looking at him but he looks right at them and says "You folks have a nice night." and leaves. Michael thinks "he knows" because he has the orb. Max blames Michael for that. Liz says "Even though he has it, he doesn't know what it is. Right?" Max says "We don't even know what it is." Tess walks over and wants to know "what what is?" They change the subject. She sits and Max starts to stare at her. He has a vision of the two of them together, holding hands, in the desert, standing amid the symbols from the cave wall; of a child in an incubator like pod; of something in a larva like stage of development. Liz, Isabel and Tess are all aware of Max' trance like state. Tess breaks his reverie by asking if she has something in her teeth. Liz goes to get Tess a drink and Max accompanies her out to the back room. He kisses her and says "I just really needed to do that." The he kisses her again and he starts having flashes of Tess and suddenly he envisions he is kissing Tess and not Liz. Liz breaks his reverie and asks if he had another flash. Max is obviously unsettled by his experience. He apologizes to Liz and says he's just tired. Liz goes into the kitchen and Max stares out the window in the door at Tess.

Valenti is on the phone talking to the hospital in Maryland, asking to speak to Kathleen Topolsky. He is holding the orb. He is unable to talk to Topolsky so he leaves a message for Dr. Margolin to call him.

At school, Alex says hi to Tess and Isabel as he passes by. Tess comments that Alex has it bad for Isabel. Isabel replies that "He's sweet." Tess asks "Sweet as in nice guy or sweet as in potential love connection?" Isabel replies "Sweet as in I don't know." She asks Tess who she's interested in and Tess confesses that she's bummed that Max is not available. Isabel says Max is so into Liz and their being soul mates that "It's enough to make you gag." Tess starts to say "That's weird, I thought I felt him..." but doesn't complete the thought. Cut to science class, where the teacher is discussing combustibility. Tess, sitting in front, turns and looks at Max sitting in the back and the flame on his Bunsen burner shoots up. The teacher asks Max to come sit with Tess to help her get caught up. He approaches Tess, then he picks her up and she wraps her legs around his waist and they begin kissing passionately. He lays her down onto the teacher's desk and climbs on top of her. The entire class, including Alex, Maria and Liz, look on in shock. Tess starts saying "Max, you're on fire." over and over. His reverie is finally broken and he discovers the Bunsen burner has set his shirt on fire. He puts it out and sits next to Tess. Cut to the girls' room where Maria is concerned about the way Tess was looking at Max. Liz says she has nothing to worry about. Cut to the boys' room where Max is telling Michael that he's worried. He tells him he's been having daydreams about being "together" with Tess. Michael says "Guess you're only human after all." Cut to the girls' room where Maria reminds Liz that Max isn't human and what if "Czechoslovakians" can't resist temptation. Liz brushes off her worries. Max tells Michael that something is happening to him that is out of his control; he can't stop it. That it's like Tess knows something about him that she shouldn't and he worries who she is. Michael brushes off his worries and says they have more important concerns to think about, like Valenti having the orb. Max walks away, wondering aloud why he thought Michael would be any help.

At the Valenti home, Kyle is watching a basketball game when Valenti gets a phone call, causing him to switch the channel to a news report about a hospital in Maryland where six people perished in a fire. Valenti calls Dr. Margolin and is patched through to his cell phone. Dr. Margolin tells him Topolsky died in the fire and he doesn't know who Valenti is because he's never been to Roswell in his life.

The next morning, Valenti goes to the UFO Center to talk to Max. He tells him he knows how Max feels when you have something tearing you up inside and don't have anyone to talk to about it. He tells him that Topolsky died in a fire in Maryland and that the Dr. Margolin they met was an impostor, possibly a shapeshifter. He asks Max what if everything Topolsky told them about Pierce was true and he just killed six people to get to Topolsky. He tells Max this is serious; that all their names are on Pierce's list, including his own. They are all in danger and they all need to help each other. That Max needs to trust him because someone is out there watching them. Cut to Michael in his apartment being observed by someone watching a video monitor.

At school, Michael goes into the Administration file room and starts going through a file cabinet drawer. Maria follows him in and asks what he's doing. He doesn't want to tell her so she reminds him they are a couple and shouldn't have secrets from one another. He tells her he's looking up Tess' files and she guesses it's for Max. Michael leaves and goes to the address listed in the files and it's an empty house. He hides when an Army jeep approaches. Two men and a soldier with an M-16 rifle get out. The men go inside and the soldier stands guard outside.

At the Crashdown, Liz is quizzing Max about whether he is Tess' lab partner for the rest of the semester and that with an odd number of students someone is going to be without a lab partner. Max asks if they can stop talking about Tess, Michael comes in and says that's a good idea and he and Max go over to Isabel at the counter to talk. He tells them about the empty house and the military. Isabel defends Tess saying they just moved here and she's sure there is a reasonable explanation for the military. Max tells them what Valenti told him about Topolsky and that Valenti thinks everything she told them about the alien hunter is true. Michael wants to know why he didn't tell them about it sooner. Max says he didn't want anyone to panic. Michael says "I'm trying to figure out which problem to panic over. You having secret meetings with Valenti or your new girlfriend Tess bringing the Army into town." Liz overhears the new girlfriend Tess remark. She looks at Max then walks away. Max is about to follow her when Valenti comes in. He places the orb on the counter and says "Before you can expect anyone to trust you, you've got to trust them first. Whenever you're ready Max." Then he leaves. Michael says they have to do something about Tess so Isabel volunteers to check it out. When Isabel gets to the house, the movers are there. Tess tells her they've been at a hotel all week, then introduces her to her father, Ed Harding. They have a lot of exotic artifacts which Tess says her father collected from all over the world. Isabel asks him what he does that brings him to such exotic ports. He says "If I tell you, I'll have to kill you." Isabel is stunned. Then he laughs; it was a joke. He works as a consultant for the Army. He and Tess start to direct the movers and Isabel, helping, picks up a box marked photos. Tess freaks and tells her to put it down. She tries to cover by saying Isabel is a guest and shouldn't be lifting heavy boxes. She goes to get Isabel a drink and her father asks what Isabel is doing there.

It's raining. Max comes by the Crashdown after closing to tell Liz that he doesn't feel anything for Tess. He knows Liz is the person he is supposed to be with. He tells her "You're the *one*, Liz. The *only* one. I could never be with anyone else." Then he kisses her. When he leaves, he runs into Tess, whose car has broken down across the street. They are standing in the rain. He tells her she planned it. That she's doing something to him. She denies planning anything; she just needs someone to help her with her car. He approaches her saying "I'm with Liz. We belong together. I don't want anyone but her." All the while he's getting closer and closer until they're inches apart and he kisses her passionately. Liz is watching at the Crashdown door. Max has flashes of the child in the pod emerging; then one of the Aries constellation. He stops kissing her. He's breathing hard and asks "Who are you?"

At Michael's apartment, Max comes in and Michael, irritated, says "What are *you* doing here?" Max is very agitated. He says "I'm in trouble Michael. I don't know what's happening to me. I kissed Tess." Michael is shocked. Max tells him it was like something was controlling him, that something is going on. But Michael is just disgusted with Max. He says "First you talk to Valenti behind my back and now you're kissing Tess behind Liz'." Max says he didn't tell Valenti anything and, since he returned the orb, maybe they should trust him. Michael says "I use to admire you. You were solid, someone I could trust, even more than I could trust myself. And Liz trusted you. I don't know who you are anymore, Maxwell. So why don't you get the hell out of my house." He gives Max a slight push as he walks by him towards the refrigerator. Max wants him to listen so he grabs Michael and shoves him against the refrigerator, causing the items on top to fall over, exposing a tiny hidden camera.

The next day at the Crashdown, Max, Michael and Isabel discuss who could have planted it. Michael suggests Valenti but Max thinks the device would be too expensive for the Roswell PD. Michael suggests Mr Harding; Isabel starts to disagree, telling them about the hotel and Harding's job and saying he's dorky but normal but then she remembers the box. Liz walks by and does not say hi, so Max follows her into the back room. She tells him she saw him and, hurt, asks "How could you kiss her?" He replies "I don't know. I don't know what's happening." She asks if any of the things he said to her were true. He tells her she has to believe him. The way he is drawn to Tess is not just attraction, it's something else. He asks her to have faith in him, in them, until he can figure out what's going on. He tells her he had a flash when he kissed Tess and Liz is stricken. She says "I guess I'm not so special after all." She runs upstairs. Maria finds her on her balcony, sobbing uncontrollably. Maria tells her that Michael told her she needed a friend. Liz tells

her that Max kissed Tess. Maria can't believe it and agrees with Liz when she says it's so unlike him. She hugs her, tells her she will support her and asks "What are you going to do?" Liz says "Everything I see with my eyes, tells me that he's cheating on me but everything I feel with my heart, tells me that he's not." Maria advises her to go with her heart.

At the Crashdown, Alex, using a small video monitor, explains to Michael how the camera works. Maria asks what they are doing with it and Michael tells her they are going to use it to spy on Tess and her father because they think they are FBI. They discuss how they are going to get the camera in the house. Cut to Liz visiting Tess. She tells her they need to talk, that she's in love with Max and saw them kissing. Tess says it came out of nowhere and will never happen again. Tess goes to get her a drink and Liz places the camera under one of the artifacts. She sees the box and goes through it, finding pictures of Max. Michael, Maria, Isabel and Alex are watching on a monitor from a warehouse nearby. They see Mr. Harding come in and startle Liz, who knocks over the artifact the camera was under, sending camera and artifact crashing to the floor. The signal goes out. Liz apologizes profusely for breaking the artifact. She offers to clean up the mess. Mr. Harding politely, but menacingly, tells her not to bother, they'll get it later. Then he invites her to stay for dinner. The gang discusses what they should do. Michael wants to go get her but Isabel doesn't think they should rush in, causing suspicion, if nothing is wrong. Michael says they can't take the chance with Liz' life so they leave to check things out. Liz, saying she is calling her mom, calls Max and cryptically tells him where she is and that he was right about them. He tells her he's coming to get her. When the gang gets there they look through the window. Isabel says "What's going on?" and Alex replies, "They are passing the mashed potatoes." Mr Harding quizzes Liz and learns that her parents own the Crashdown and that she's dating Max. Max arrives and argues with the others about going in to get her. Mr Harding starts to clean up the artifact when the doorbell rings. Mr Harding goes to the door and Liz retrieves the camera and places it in a dish with colored glass marbles. Max is at the door and says he is there to see Tess, that they need to talk. Tess says they have nothing to talk about, that what happened between them was a mistake. Liz tells Max that she and Tess have straightened everything out and they should leave. Mr Harding acts disappointed and says they should do it again sometime. When Liz and Max join the others she tells them about the pictures of Max. Valenti is in a car parked outside the house and he is taking pictures. Cut to the warehouse, where the gang is falling asleep waiting for something to happen on the monitor. Max thanks Liz for believing in him. She says she went on faith but she's not sure there will ever be a good enough reason to explain his kissing Tess. On the monitor they see Tess dump the remnants of the artifact on top of the piano, then, use her powers to reconstruct it.

SYNOPSIS – FOUR SQUARE

There are stars in the background. Isabel says to Alex “I’m finally ready to let someone in and I want him to be you.” Alex replies “I’ve been waiting to hear that, Isabel and I want to be the one for you because you’re the only one for me.” They kiss and the stars in the background disappear and are replaced by a clear blue sky. They part and in the background Michael is standing on a rock formation, with his arms folded, watching them. The camera pulls back to reveal Isabel, wearing a black evening gown and pink ballet slippers, standing in the desert amid the symbols from the cave wall. It is obvious now that this is a vision or dream. Isabel is standing next to and looking down at the symbol that looks like an X with a square at each end. Michael is now down at her level and behind her. He holds out his hand to her. She turns and sees him and he calls her name. Then he turns into Alex calling her name. Cut to the warehouse where Isabel is asleep on Alex’ shoulder. Alex is saying “Isabel wake up, she’s moving around.” On the monitor we see Tess preparing to leave for school. Isabel picks up her cell phone and dials. Cut to Maria and Michael asleep in her car outside Tess’s home. Maria’s cell phone is ringing. Isabel tells her Tess is leaving now. Tess gets in her car and Maria says “We’re on it.”

At school, Liz and Max are talking about Nasedo using Tess’s body to manipulate him. Liz gets a call on her cell phone and tells Max that Tess is on her way inside. Tess heads for the girls’ room. Liz follows her in but Tess is no where to be seen. Then she suddenly appears, startling Liz. Tess is confused. She says she thought they had settled everything last night and were now friends, so why is everyone following her.

The six of them are sitting on a non-working carnival ride discussing Tess. Liz doesn’t think she knows that they are on to her. Michael says she’s the 4th alien they have been searching for and they should trust her. Isabel says she doesn’t think that anyone who would disguise themselves as a teenage girl to seduce Max is on their side. Max says Nasedo is a shapeshifter who has killed and no matter what they discover about themselves, they were raised human and he is an alien who has powers they do not; that Tess had some sort of power over him. Isabel agrees, she felt it too. Isabel reminds them that Nasedo may not be posing as Tess anymore. They all agree to keep watching her with the camera. Before leaving Isabel, having a flash of her dream, gives Michael a strange look, which is noticed by Maria.

Ed Harding sees Sheriff Valenti to tell him he found the surveillance camera in his home. Valenti learns that Ed works as a consultant for the Army and no one else has been in the house except for the movers and two friends of Tess. Valenti tells him the movers may have been staking out the place and he’ll look into it. When Ed leaves, Valenti pulls out the pictures he took outside the Harding home of the kids.

At school, Isabel tries to convince the secretary in the office that she’s part of the “Sunshine Committee” and they need information on Tess to help welcome her to the school. When the secretary leaves to get permission, Isabel uses her computer to print out Tess’ schedule and school records.

At the Crashdown, Liz, Max and Maria are discussing their surveillance of Tess. Liz asks Max if he is still drawn to Tess. He says no. Maria says they still shouldn’t let him be alone or Tess might work her voodoo on him. Max says he doesn’t need a babysitter. Liz agrees with Maria because Tess scares her. Max suggests they go watch Tess on the monitor and Valenti, coming up behind them, tells them that’s against the law. He places the camera on the counter and says they should stop hiding things from him because he always knows more than they think he does. He tells them that he knows they planted it in the Harding home and, since it’s FBI issue, the only way they could get one is if they found it when someone, probably Pierce, planted it to watch them. He reminds them that the more he knows, the safer they’ll be. He picks up the camera and leaves. Michael says “Don’t even think about it Maxwell.”

Isabel arrives home to discover Diane and Tess bonding over the family album. Tess tells Isabel that she’s lucky to have such a wonderful family and so many happy memories. Diane leaves to run errands and Tess tells Isabel that she feels close to her, that they share something special and she wants to be completely honest with her. She tells her she has “strong” feelings for Max and asks Isabel if she ever felt a connection with someone “like you and this other person are destined to be together?” Isabel flashes to Michael but answers “No.” Tess says that’s how she feels about Max. She asks Isabel “Are you sure you never felt that way about anyone?” She comes up behind Isabel and whispers in her ear “Pay more attention, Isabel.

There are signs all around you.” Isabel looks behind her and sees 4 sugar cubes on the table. Later, Isabel says to Max “She really scared me Max. It was like I lost a few seconds of time and when it was over I wasn’t even sure if what I remembered had happened or not. Is that what she did to you?” Max says “It’s like she could make my mind go places I wasn’t taking it.” Isabel asks if he feels changes in his body like something waking up and he replies “Something primal?” Isabel says “Instinctive” and Max says “Something not human.” Michael comes to the window. Isabel had called him because she didn’t think any of them should be alone tonight. Later that night, Isabel is dreaming of being in the desert amid the symbols again. She reaches down and touches one of the squares at the end of the X and flashes to the 4 sugar cubes. Michael’s hand reaches down and strokes her hair. He cups her face with both hands and they kiss. The kiss becomes passionate and she jolts awake. Simultaneously, Michael, in Max’ room, does the same. Max asks what’s wrong and he replies “Isabel”. They rush to her room and she’s trying to catch her breath. She’s very upset but says “It was only a dream” and looks at Michael, who looks like he’s still in shock, and he echoes her. Cut to the kitchen, where they are looking at the drawing of the cave painting and they both point out the same symbol as being in their dream, as well as mentioning the rock formation. Max asks what they were doing out in the desert and they both look uncomfortable and say “Nothing.” Isabel says Tess made the symbol out of sugar cubes. Max is frustrated and says “I wish we knew how to read this.” Isabel says “Tell him Michael.” Michael says he thought he figured it out once but was wrong. Isabel says he used the V constellation to navigate the symbols. That the night Max was drunk they went to the library, where the symbol Nasedo sent them was supposed to lead and sent him one in return. Max is angry and blames Michael for leading Nasedo to them. That they no longer have control of the situation and are working under Nasedo’s terms not theirs. Michael thinks Nasedo could lead them to a better life but that Max is too happy with his life in Roswell to risk it. He asks him why he’s afraid of being alien. Max asks why Michael is afraid of being human. Isabel berates them for only thinking of themselves and reminds them that this is happening to her too. She says she thinks Tess has been making her have the dreams.

At school, Max and Liz look up information on the Aries constellation. They discover that on that day, 05/27/00, Venus will be in the right position to create the V shape. Liz notices Tess outside and asks Max what it was like kissing her. He tells her that it was upsetting. It made him feel things about himself that he never knew about before, things he didn’t like. They notice Kyle sitting next to Tess and are worried.

Michael seeks out Maria and tells her he’s been thinking about their relationship. Maria, shocked, asks if he’s OK. He says he didn’t get much sleep last night. Cut to Isabel pulling Alex into the janitor’s closet. Isabel says “You know how I said I wanted to take things slow? Alex replies “The word glacial comes to mind.” Isabel says “Maybe it’s time to melt the ice.” She tells him she’s ready for a relationship and wants it to be with him and no one else she knows. Alex says “There’s someone else?” and she replies “No, absolutely not, only you!” Cut to Michael saying to Maria that he thinks they should only see each other. Maria points out that they already are only seeing each other, unless he has someone else on the side. He quickly denies this and says he wants to make it official. She says “Like going steady?” He agrees and says “I just don’t want anyone to come between us.” Maria is very pleased and says he should have more of these sleepless nights. He says he doesn’t want to talk about last night. Cut to Alex saying “This is monumental. We’ve got to go about this the right way. You know, romance. How about tonight?” Isabel replies “How about right now?” and kisses him. Cut to Michael and Maria kissing in the hallway. Noticing that their classmates are all staring at them, they head for the janitor’s closet and open the door on Isabel and Alex. Isabel says to Michael “Alex and I are together now.” Michael says to her “Maria and I are going steady.” Maria looks at Alex and says “Must be something in the water.” Cut to Alex bringing Isabel home because she is very tired. She says she just wants to take a little nap, lays down on her bed and falls asleep immediately. Alex covers her with an afghan, tells her she’s beautiful, kisses her on the forehead and leaves. Isabel has the desert dream. She and Michael are passionately making out at the top of the rock formation. She has flashes of their cell structure and a fetus.

Michael is at home, going over the cave map. He looks up and sees Tess at his window. She breathes on it to fog it up and uses her finger to put 4 dots in the fog. Michael opens the window and says “What does that mean? Where is it?” She replies “You already know. You’ve been there before.” Michael has a flash of himself as a child, covered in an embryonic like substance, running past a sign that says “Pohlman Ranch”. When the flash is over, Tess is gone.

At the Crashdown, Klye comes in and Liz decides she’s going to try to warn him about Tess. Her attempts just make her sound jealous so she’s unsuccessful but she learns they have a study date that night at the

library. That night, Max and Liz go to the library. Tess and Kyle come in and head for the ancient language section. She tells Kyle she needs a book on the top shelf and asks him to help her up. Max follows her and watches from another aisle. Her actions are out of view to Kyle but Max can see her as she waves her hand over the wall, leaving a silver hand print. She puts her hand through the wall at the hand print and pulls out a book. On it is the same symbol that Nasedo left them. She gets down and she and Kyle leave. Max thinks Tess used Kyle as bait to lure him there so he would see her get it.

At Max', Michael tells him the 4 square symbol on the map stands for Pohlman Ranch. That it's where the crash took place but the government had it removed from maps. Max is concerned that if Nasedo had anything to do with Michael remembering the ranch they may not be able to trust it. Michael asks him what he learned at the library and Max says "Nothing." Michael doesn't believe him. Max suggests that Michael stay over and they can talk to Isabel in the morning. Cut to Isabel, who is dreaming of pushing a baby on a swing, then holding and playing with the baby; then Michael is holding and playing with the baby. They are a laughing, loving, joyous couple. Isabel jolts awake. Cut to Michael, who has also just awakened. He appears stunned. He goes to Isabel's room; she is up and says "You've seen them too, haven't you." He replies "The dreams." She says "The rock formation symbol"; he says "The two of us"; she says "The baby. I think it's all true, Michael. I think I'm pregnant with your child. How can this be?" Michael responds "Something weird like this had to happen sooner or later." They are looking out the window at the V constellation. "No matter what Max wants to think, we're not human, Isabel." Isabel says "Oh my God, Michael, what are we going to do?" They hug to comfort one another. Cut to Max dreaming of being in the desert, standing next to the 4 square symbol, holding Tess' hand. He opens his eyes to find her leaning over him. She says "It's time. You understand don't you?" Max replies "Tell me. Tell me what I'm feeling." She says "I'll show you everything. Then you'll remember." She drives him to Pohlman Ranch. The rock formation from Michael's previous visions and the dream he and Isabel shared is there and Max comments on it. Tess says "We've all seen it. We've all been here before." There is a flash of three children walking in the desert. Max says "What do you mean we?" Tess says "Hold me Max, you'll remember." She goes to him but he pushes her away, accusing her of killing people. Tess has no idea what he's talking about and denies that she ever killed anyone. He asks her if she'll kill Alex, Maria and Liz. He is attacking her with his words and Tess is truly frightened. She says "No one has to get hurt, Max." and he replies "Sure, until you get what you want." Tess says "It's not what I want. It's what's meant to be. It's all in here Max. It's our destiny." She tries to hand him the book from the library but he slaps it out of her hand and says "No, I'm not like you. I live in *this* world. It's all I know and I will not be a part of anything as evil as you." He grabs her and says "Show me who you really are, don't hide behind this face." He throws her to the ground and pins her head down. Max screams at her "Show me! Shapeshift! Show me what you really look like!" What I really look like! Tess cries out "That's not who I am! Think Max, you've seen my face before. You know who I am." Max has a vision of the children emerging from the egg shaped pods, covered in an embryonic like substance. Max, Michael and Isabel all come out but Tess is still in hers. She appears to still be asleep. Michael goes to the cave wall, waves his hand and a silver hand print appears. He places his hand on the print, the wall opens and sunlight pours in. Michael leaves. Isabel beckons to Max. He turns and looks at Tess; he is reluctant to leave but eventually joins Isabel and they leave the cave. When the vision ends, it is daytime. Tess says "You know who I am now, don't you. You understand our destiny." Michael and Isabel arrive and Michael runs up and grabs Tess saying "What the hell did you do to him? To all of us?" Max stops him and says "She's not Nasedo. She's one of us." The four of them are standing together and there is a flash of the 4 square symbol.

SYNOPSIS – MAX TO THE MAX

Continuing from the last episode (Four Square). Max, Tess, Michael and Isabel are standing together at Pohlman Ranch, like the 4 square symbol. Michael says "What do you mean she's one of us?" Instead of answering, Max runs to the rock formation. Michael and Isabel follow him. He stops at the rock wall and waves his hand over the wall, leaving a silver hand print. He places his hand over the print and the rock wall slides open. They go inside the cave and find the pods. Isabel says "What is this place, Max?" Tess comes up behind them and answers "It's where we were all born." Isabel flashes to the time she and the others emerged from the pods. She says "No, no. I don't believe this." and leaves the cave. Max tells Michael they have to go after her and leaves. Michael is still transfixed by what he sees. Tess goes up to him and gives him the book. She tells him that she knows he wants the answers and if he can convince the others that she is not their enemy then she can explain everything. Michael takes the book and leaves. Ed Harding shapeshifts from being part of the cave wall into himself. He is angry that she brought them up there when Pierce is so close. She asks "So why don't you just kill him? According to Max you've done that before." He asks if she's going to trust Max over him and she says that Max, Michael and Isabel are her family. He tells her Pierce is dangerous and she'll need him to survive Pierce. She asks why he's more afraid of Pierce than the others and he replies "He's smarter." Cut to someone watching a video of the conversation Michael and Isabel had at his apartment about the visions Liz was receiving when she kissed Max and Nasedo's possible involvement (Sexual Healing). Cut to Michael, Isabel and Max outside the cave, checking out the book (tablets connected by 5 rings). It's engraved in a language they don't understand but it also contains pictures of them, individually and paired together. Isabel is shocked by the pictures and says "How would they know what we would look like?" Michael responds "Because we were designed." Max says that's impossible and Michael says "Whether you want to face it or not, we weren't born, we were engineered." Isabel says she thinks Michael is right and that the book is saying they've been paired up – Max with Tess, she with Michael. Max doesn't want to believe it and says he belongs with Liz. Isabel says it's about their destiny. Turning to Michael she says "You and me and the baby, *that's* what this is." Max says "The what?" Michael replies "Isabel thinks she's having a kid." Max is upset and Isabel explains they were never together except in the dreams. Max says you can't get pregnant from a dream and Isabel asks "How do you know? We don't know how we get pregnant. All I know is that something is happening inside my body and we don't know what it is." Michael says they should ask Tess. Max doesn't want to but for Isabel's sake he agrees. He says "I'll go. Look at the pictures; if she's going to talk to anyone it will be me." Cut to Max coming up to Tess at school. He shows her the book and says "I want to know what's in it. I want to know everything." She suggests that they go somewhere to talk.

Deputy Dave Fisher knocks on Sheriff Valenti's office door. He's been sent down from Santa Fe as an addition to Valenti's staff. Valenti tells him that request was for 6 months ago but they'll straighten it out later. Fisher asks how he can help and Valenti tells him to clean out the coffee pot. When Fisher steps out, Valenti tells Deputy Hanson to "Get Santa Fe on the phone. He better be who he says he is."

At the Crashdown, Michael is calmly washing pots and pans while Isabel is freaking out. She says "What if Max doesn't find anything out, or what if he does and it's worse than we thought?" Oh God, Michael, I'm so scared!" She's also confused about their relationship and asks "Are you my brother or my mate? I can't forget that dream. Can you?" Unseen by them, Maria walks into the back room and sees and overhears the rest of their conversation. "You were so happy, Michael. I've never seen you that happy. Michael replies, "Well, I've never been that happy before." She says "What is this going to do to everyone else? Maria, me and Alex?" He says "Let's not think about that right now. I just want you to know that I'm not going to let you go through this alone." He strokes her hair then places his hand on her shoulder. "It's my baby too. Maybe this is the way things are meant to be." He hugs her. Maria, stricken, leaves.

Ed Harding heads down a side street, whistling. A "G-man" follows him. Harding pins him against a wall and tells him he needs to send a message to Agent Pierce. The man has a heart attack and dies. A hole has burned through the man's jacket and shirt and there is a silver hand print on his chest.

Tess and Max are in a field. Tess is saying "I know it must have been a surprise, finding out about me." She tells him how Nasedo was there when she came out of the pod. That he's not her father but has taken care of her ever since. He has the ability to shapeshift because he does not have a human body, as they do. She's never seen what he really looks like but he's taken on many personas to hide from the FBI. She tells him he never lets her get close, that he doesn't have a human side at all. Max asks what the pictures mean and she says "You know what they mean. You feel it." He asks her if they were together, in a dream, is that how they mate. She laughs and says "No, we have to do it the human way. The dreams are to awaken us, to show us how it's meant to be. Do you understand?" Max says "I think I do."

At the Crashdown, Max comes in and heads for the back room. Liz is about to start her shift but Max wants her to leave with him. He tells her he'll tell her everything later, it's important. She agrees and they leave by the front door. He brings her to a sports car and tells her the jeep is in for repairs. They drive off just as Max pulls up in the jeep, drops off Tess and drives off. Max and Liz are on the highway. Liz sits very close to Max; asks him to tell her everything, like he said he would. He says "I just want you to know, Liz, that nobody will ever come between us; nobody." She leans closer and says "Tell me something I don't know" and kisses him on the cheek. Enjoying this immensely he says "If you keep that up I'm gonna have to pull over." She asks if that's a threat or a promise and kisses him again. He pulls the car off the road and brings it to a stop. They start to make-out and Liz has a flash of desolation, lightening flashes and Sheila Hubble. Liz backs off and he asks her what's wrong. She looks disturbed but says "Nothing."

In the alley outside the Crashdown, Michael is throwing trash into a dumpster when Maria comes out to ask him about "the baby." He says "I can't talk about that." She says he owes her an explanation, that she thought he and Isabel were like brother and sister and now they're sleeping together. He says they're not sleeping together and she says "Then how's there a baby?" and he says "I don't know." She asks "How do you *not* know?" Michael loses it and starts yelling at her "I just don't know! I don't know anything anymore. I don't know what the hell it means. I don't know what I'm feeling." Maria interrupts and says "Wait a minute, what you're feeling? Now you have feelings for her?" He says, "Maria, this isn't about you or me or our stupid relationship. This is about Isabel. Something is happening to her and that's all I care about." Hurt, Maria walks away. Inside the Crashdown, Alex tells Isabel that Maria told him about her "situation". She says "Maria knows!?" He tells her "I just want you to know that if you're having trouble dealing with it, I'm here." He asks if Michael loves her, she says it's not that simple and he says it should be. She reminds him they are dealing with an alien pregnancy and he tells her he knows that, he's known from the start that if he decided to go forward with this that things might get weird. He says "Look, you said that you were ready for a relationship and whatever is going on now, I know that you meant that, I know that it was real." She replies, "It was, it was real." He tells her "I'll be here when you need me."

Valenti finds Fisher going through the file cabinets. He angrily slams the drawer shut and says "What the hell are you doing deputy. That's private." Valenti checks out Fisher's claim that he was color coding the files and says "Your Commanding Officer in Santa Fe said you were a bit of an overachiever. From now on, just do as you're asked, nothing more."

At the Crashdown, Max comes in and tells Isabel and Michael that Tess told him "The dreams are just to guide us in our destinies. She says the constellations have aligned and awakened our biological drives but the usual methods still apply. We can't get pregnant from a dream." Michael asks if they're supposed to pair up like the book says. Max says he won't let any book tell him what to do. Maria walks by and Michael goes over to her and tells her the baby was a false alarm. He says he's sorry for calling their relationship stupid, he didn't mean it and she says "Well then, you shouldn't have said it." Max is surprised that Maria knows about the baby and asks if Liz does. Maria says "You didn't tell Liz?" Max replies "I haven't seen her since this morning." and Maria says "What are you talking about, you picked her up an hour ago." He says he didn't pick her up and they all exchange concerned looks.

Back on the highway, "Max" pulls the car over, stops, gets out and opens the trunk. Liz' cell phone rings, she answers and Max says "Liz, it's me." She says "Who is this?" Nasedo/Max takes the G-man from the trunk and dumps the body next to the mile 67 sign. On the phone, Max is saying "Tell us where you are." Nasedo takes the phone and hears Max say "Liz, are you there? It's Max." He shuts off the phone and says to Liz "Now you know." He gets back in the car, smiles at her and pulls onto the highway. Cut to the kids who are discussing how they are going to find Liz. Max wants to go to Valenti so he can put out an APB. Michael is against telling Valenti the truth so Maria suggests they tell Valenti that Max has "taken"

Liz. Cut to Valenti's office where Maria and Alex tell Valenti that they got a phone call from Liz who said that Max was acting strange, scaring her and wouldn't let her go home, as if he had kidnapped her.

On the highway, Nasedo calls the FBI to leave a message for Pierce. "Let him know I left him a little clue on Highway 380 to Hondo, near mile marker 67." Liz asks if he's going to kill her too and he says "Not as long as I still need you." and smiles at her. She says, "Do you have to be Max?" and he says he likes it, likes being seventeen; besides, she wouldn't have been as friendly to Ed Harding. She says "That was *you*?" He says he's been lot of different people but Max Evans is his most important role. He's using Max as bait to draw out Pierce and he's using Liz as a hostage. She thinks Pierce would kill her but Nasedo thinks he would want her alive to answer questions about what Max did to her. He thinks she'll come in handy and if she doesn't, she's been "fantastic company". He says "Time to leave another clue." He stops at a gas station, leaves a silver hand print on one pump, causes another to explode and drives off.

Michael grabs Tess as she's walking down the street. He forcefully puts her in the jeep and says she's going to help them get Liz back from Nasedo. Cut to Fisher telling Valenti about the explosion at the gas station and the hand print. He says they're faxing pictures from security cameras. Valenti heads out, Fisher follows and Valenti tells him to wait for the pictures. Max, Isabel, Michael and Tess are stopped by Fisher for speeding. He gives them a warning. When he gets the pictures, he sees they are of Max.

Nasedo takes Liz to a carnival. He tells her they're waiting for Pierce. She tells him that Max will be coming for her because he cares about her. She doesn't think Nasedo cares about anyone. He replies "All I care about is protecting them." Cut to Valenti who sees the FBI at mile 67 and stops to investigate. Cut to the kids in the jeep. Tess is still trying to convince them of their destiny together. Max says "It's not about the 4 of us right now; it's about Liz." Tess says "Liz is human, she has nothing to do with us." Max replies "No, *you* have nothing to do with us." She looks to Michael and Isabel for support but gets none. She is hurt by the rejection. They get to mile 67. Tess sees the agents and warns Max to keep driving because she recognizes the special unit. Cut to the carnival. Nasedo is telling Liz that "Tess and Max were made to be together." Then he says "It's time for another clue." and he sends a signal light up into the sky of the Whirlwind Galaxy symbol. While he's distracted, Liz slips away. Cut to Valenti, and the kids, who all see the signal. Tess thinks he's leading Pierce right to him to kill him. They all head for the signal. Nasedo sees Liz and follows her into the Mirror Maze. Valenti arrives and sees "Max" go into the Maze. The kids arrive and split up. Max sees Valenti go into the Maze and follows him. They are all having difficulty navigating the Maze and their speed slows to a crawl. Nasedo spots Valenti and smiles, Valenti sees Max. Max runs into Nasedo who says "What are you doing? Get out of here." Max says "Where's Liz?" Nasedo replies "Pierce doesn't care about her, he only wants me." Max says "He wants her too. He wants *all* of us. I'm not leaving without her." Liz spots them and calls out to Max. He runs to her but is stopped by a glass wall. She sees the agents come up behind him and calls out a warning. He runs off. Nasedo comes up behind Liz and takes her hand. Valenti sees Max and calls out to him. The agents and Fisher are behind Valenti. Someone shoots and Valenti returns fire. Mirrors are shattering everywhere. The agents corner Max and pin him to a wall. Valenti is helpless to stop them. Nasedo and Liz also see this. Nasedo takes Liz out of the Maze and into an empty bus parked nearby. Liz kisses him, gets the same disturbing flashes, backs away and says "You're not Max." Nasedo replies "No, I'm not and I've got to get him back." He shapeshifts into a clown and leaves the bus. Liz follows and runs into Michael, Isabel and Tess. She is frantic, devastated and plaintively wails "They have Max, they have Max!" Michael hugs her. Cut to Max, who is in a white tiled room with no apparent doors or windows but the walls are in fact two way mirrors and he is being observed as he bangs on the walls and frantically tries to find an exit. An agent says "They want to know when you'd like to start the tests." The other agent turns around; it is Fisher. He says "Tomorrow morning. Let him get some sleep." The first agent replies "Yes, sir, Agent Pierce." Max, with his back against the wall, slides down and sits on the floor, defeated.

SYNOPSIS – THE WHITE ROOM

Max is sitting on the floor in a corner of the white room, wearing hospital garb. Pierce's disembodied voice can be heard over a speaker "Good Morning, Max." Max replies "Where am I?" and stands up. Pierce says "Someplace where no one can find you." Max asks "Why am I here?" and Pierce says "That's what I want to try to find out." Max nervously wanders the empty room. He tells the voice that he's made a mistake; if he wants to know who he is he should call his parents. Pierce says he knows who he is and Max can make this easy or hard. He asks "What is the name of your home planet?" Max replies "Earth." Pierce says "All right, hard." Four men, covered from head to toe in protective garb, enter the room and grab Max. His resistance is futile. They strap him to a table using metal restraints and draw some blood.

At the Crashdown, Michael, Isabel, Liz and Tess are worried about what might be happening to Max. Maria and Alex arrive. They are relieved to see Liz is safe but then Liz tells them about Max being taken by Pierce. Tess doesn't know where Nasedo is so Isabel says that it's up to them to rescue Max. Liz wants to go to Valenti because he has resources but Tess says so do they – their powers. Michael and Isabel tell her their powers are not advanced, that they do not use them much. Tess is confident in hers. Alex reminds Isabel about her ability to dreamwalk. Liz tells her she should do it to Max so he can tell her where he is. Cut to Max, all alone in the white room, still strapped to the table. A man in protective garb comes in. He uses a remote control to tilt the table Max is on. The man removes his head covering and Max recognizes Deputy Fisher. He removes the rest of the protective outerwear, revealing a G-man type suit. He pulls out Max' X-rays, puts one on the wall, presses the tile and it lights up, exposing Max' spinal column. He says there's something strange about his X-rays because they are completely human – bone structure, organs, circulatory and pulmonary systems. He puts another slide up and says "But, these are your blood cells; completely not human. I know what you are, so now you're going to start answering my questions." He starts reeling off names of agents, dating from 1962, who were killed; their internal organs had reached a temperature of 180° F and a sliver hand print was found on the chest. Max says he doesn't know anything about them. Pierce asks if it was one of the others. He tells Max there were 4 aliens that crashed in 1947. Two died and two were captured but one escaped – Nasedo. The other one they studied for 3 years, right there in that very room. Pierce spent his entire career studying the documents on these aliens. He shows Max the orb and says "Where's the other one and what happens when you put them together?" Max says "I don't know." Pierce uses the remote to lower the table and two men, in protective garb, come in and attach an intravenous drip to Max, who is sedated almost immediately. Cut to Liz' bedroom where Isabel is dreamwalking with Max. She's in the white room; she's disoriented and bumping into the walls, crawling on the floor. Max is tied, spread eagle, to a wall. She calls out to Max for help. He says "I can't. They gave me something." She goes to him and says "Tell me where you are." He says he can't and she tells him to think about how they brought him there. She sees his vision of being pulled out of the back of a van, being placed face down on a gurney and wheeled past a chain link fence, into a building with a star on the floor with an eagle in the middle of it, then pass a security point which scans your hand for access. She asks him who brought him there and he envisions Deputy Fisher, then Fisher in a suit as Pierce and Isabel realizes Fisher is Pierce. She breaks from the trance screaming Max' name. She's crying hysterically. Michael tries to calm her down so she can tell them what she learned. She tells them Max "is so scared", that Fisher is Pierce and "he's drugging him, hurting him." Liz asks where he is and she says she doesn't know but thinks she's seen it before. Cut to the UFO Museum where they are looking at an exhibit of the Eagle Rock Military Base, where they took the aliens from the crash. It's been abandoned for years. Isabel says "That's where he is." Since they need to use their powers to break into the base, Tess points out that, under the circumstances, the humans would just be a liability and Maria, Liz and Alex agree to stay behind. Cut to the military base. Michael finds an underground passage and they descend to the basement. They reach an area where further entry requires a hand scan. Isabel remembers it as something Max saw so they know he's beyond that point. Cut to the white room. Max is too drugged to answer any of Pierce's questions so Pierce tells the doctors to flush out his system; he wants him completely coherent for the next phase. Cut to the Crashdown where Liz, Maria and Alex are trying to convince themselves that everything is going to be all right. Valenti comes in and sits down with them. He says he's been up all night, trying to figure out what happened at the carnival. He knows he saw two Maxes, that one of them is in the hands of Pierce and he's hoping "it isn't the one that we all care about.

Liz, tell me, let me help.” There are tears welling up in her eyes but she replies “We don’t know anymore than you do, Sheriff.” He tells them Max is going to need more help than any of them can give him. When he leaves, Liz says she’ll never forgive herself if something happens to Max that she could have prevented by getting Valenti’s help. Maria suggests they give them to 4:00 to get back before doing anything. It’s now 11:23. Cut to a montage of the torture Max is going through – being held down while injected, being immersed and held down in a tub of ice water, hooked up to electrodes and being shocked – he is resisting and/or screaming in pain through all these scenes. Cut to Isabel, Michael and Tess. They see two men in protective garb pulling a gurney with a body on it under a sheet. They follow them to the morgue to investigate. Cut to the Crashdown. It’s 4:06 and Liz says she’s not waiting and goes to talk to Valenti. Cut to the base. When the men leave, they go into the morgue. They approach the gurney with trepidation, afraid they will find Max under the sheet. Michael finally works up the courage to remove the sheet. It’s the agent Nasedo killed the day before. They are relieved it’s not Max but then see the silver hand print and know that Nasedo has struck again. An agent walks in and says “What are you doing here?” Michael tries to use his powers to repel the agent but they are not under control so doors fly open and things go flying around the room. The agent, who is unaffected, raises his hand and sends an energy surge at Michael which lifts him off his feet and slams him into one of the open doors. Tess says “It’s you” and the agent shapeshifts into Ed Harding. He approaches Michael, who gets up and says “I’ve been looking for you for a long time.” Nasedo replies “Not as long as I’ve been looking for you.” He tells them they are not equipped to handle this situation and he needs to get them out before they get killed. He shapeshifts back into the agent and leads them out of the morgue. Cut to Liz entering Valenti’s office. She tells him he’s right, they do need his help, that Deputy Fisher is Pierce and he has Max. He asks how she knows and she says she can’t tell him and asks him to trust her. She tells him Max is in a lot of trouble but she knows where he is. Cut to the base. Nasedo and Tess have been checking out their escape route. Nasedo says “The most important part of the plan is timing. Set your watches; 5:47. He hands Michael the escape route and tells him to scan it into his brain. Annoyed that Michael can’t, he says “All right, you have 2 minutes to memorize it.” He says he needs help to get through the security door. He can’t handle the lock because it’s made of depleted uranium, a metal composed of heavy atoms, which can’t be manipulated. The FBI have been studying them for 50 years and are aware of their limitations. They added an x-ray to the fingerprint scan because they know his bone structure is not human. He says “I can change my appearance but not what’s on the inside. Your bone structure, on the other hand, is 100% human.” Michael, disappointed, says “So you’re different from me?” He tells them, since there are no women in the unit, Michael will go with him. Michael says he’s unable to change his fingerprints and Nasedo says “Yes you can, you just don’t know you can. Isabel and Tess will help from there.

Max is on the floor of the white room. He wakes up, senses he’s not alone and charges after Pierce, grabbing him by the lapels of his suit. Pierce smiles, shakes his head and says “Don’t even try to use your abilities, Max. The serum we injected you with...very effective in suppressing neurotransmitters in your cerebral cortex.” He tells him they discovered from the other alien that most of his powers came from there. Max’ energy is spent and he releases his hold on Pierce. Pierce gently sits him down in a chair and says “That’s not your real weakness though, is it? It’s not that you’re part alien, it’s that you’re part human.” He hits the remote button and metal restraints hold down Max’ arms. Pierce places a virtual reality scanner on Max and shows him pictures of his loved ones as he talks about his feelings. When he shows him a picture of Liz, lying dead and bleeding, Max freaks out, screaming “NO!!” over and over. Pierce tries to calm him down, telling him it’s not real. “I just wanted to show you what can happen, what will happen.” Max says “You’re evil.” Pierce says “I’m risking my life to save my country, my planet, from being colonized by alien life, by you.” He wants Max to tell him where the other orb is. Max doesn’t answer so he says he has 10 seconds to tell him where the orb is or which of his friends he wants him to kill first. He starts a countdown on the scanner and says “Maybe we’ll start with Liz”, showing the picture again. Max screams “OK, stop it. Stooooop!” Pierce removes the scanner and Max, emotionally spent and close to tears, says “I’ll tell you where it is, just don’t hurt Liz.” Surprised, Pierce says “You do have feelings...just like us...whatever you are, you better tell me the truth, for Liz’ sake.”

Nasedo brings Michael back to the morgue. He tells Michael that humans are weak and wasteful, that their brains are incredible machines they haven’t even begun to learn to use. Michael and the others were engineered to use their brains to full capacity; that’s where their powers come from, everything they can do is human; they were just programmed to be several thousand years ahead of the rest of mankind. He holds up the hand of the dead agent, placing his index finger next to the dead man’s and says “You can do it Michael, the only thing stopping you is yourself.” Michael takes the hand and places his index finger next to the dead man’s and concentrates on them. Nothing happens and Nasedo says “Try again.”

Isabel, who will dreamwalk with Max, to give him the plan, asks Tess what she is going to do. Suddenly, an agent appears, grabs Tess, throws her over his shoulder and carries her off, while Tess is screaming. Isabel jumps up to give chase when Tess, behind her, says "It's OK, I made you think something was happening right in front of you when it really wasn't." Tess says Isabel needs to get Max to clear the room and she will use the mind trick to distract Pierce so Michael and Nasedo can get Max out. Cut to Michael trying so hard a light explodes. He says "Damn it, I can't do this!" Nasedo says he can and Michael screams back that he's not helping. Nasedo asks if he's going to let Max die. Michael grabs Nasedo and says "I am doing my best!" Nasedo says it's not his best. Michael tells him to give him a pointer. Nasedo says it's in his programming. Michael says he didn't get the manual. "All this time I've been alone. Where the hell have you been?! Why did you let this happen to us, to me?!" Nasedo replies "Emotions are a weakness, Michael. Focus." They hear footsteps approaching. Nasedo says he'll have to kill the agent if Michael can't do it. Michael tries again, the pressure is mounting. Suddenly, his fingerprint changes. He says "I did it!" Agent Matheson walks in and Nasedo places his hand on his chest and kills him. Michael screams "Noooo!" and asks why he killed him. Nasedo intends to take his identity and he can't afford to have two of himself out there. Michael wants to know how he can kill so easily. Nasedo doesn't answer. Michael says "You don't care, do you?" Nasedo says "Michael, if you want to survive, if you want to get back home, you have to be willing to fight for that. Michael says "You're not who I thought you'd be." Nasedo replies "Neither are you" and waves his hand, changing Michael's clothes into a G-man type suit. He hands Michael a comb, says "It's show time" then shapeshifts into Matheson. They exit the morgue.

Pierce comes into the white room with both orbs and tells Max to make them work. Max says "I don't know how." and Pierce has a surgical table brought in. He shows him the scalpels and says "I can take you apart, piece by piece, and make sure you stay conscious enough to feel every second of it." Max is very distressed and says "I can't tell you what I don't know." repeatedly. Pierce says "Bring in the surgeons." Cut to Nasedo and Michael reaching the scanner and Michael opening the door. Cut to Max on the surgical table. Pierce points to the surgeon with the knife and says "This man will hurt you." He points to another with a hypodermic needle and says "This man will help you. Tell me what I need to know and he will take the pain away." Max says "Who's inhuman now?" Pierce says to the surgeon "Open him up." Cut to Isabel who begins her dreamwalk. Isabel tells Max that Michael and Nasedo are on their way. He tells her that Pierce wants him to show him how the orbs work. Isabel says "Tell him anything" and to get Pierce alone in the room. The surgeon cuts into Max' chest and he screams out "Stoop!" He tells Pierce he'll show him how they work but only him, so Pierce tells everyone to leave. Cut to Isabel telling Tess about the orbs. She says she doesn't know how they work and Isabel says she has to think of something. Cut to Max holding the orbs. Shaking, he tells Pierce it takes time. Impatient, Pierce is about to call back the surgeons when he sees the orbs glow. Michael and Nasedo are watching through the mirrored wall and notice Pierce's rapt attention. They break through the mirror and grab Max. Nasedo tells Michael to follow the escape route, he has something to take care of. Michael reluctantly leaves with Max. Tess breaks the connection and Pierce is brought back to reality. He asks "Where's the prisoner?" Cut to the morgue, where two agents, discover Agent Matheson's body and run towards the white room. Cut to the white room, where Nasedo is about to touch Pierce when one of the agents calls out "Sir, stay back he's not Matheson." Pierce jumps out of the way and the agents shoot Nasedo, who goes down. Pierce tells them to lock down the security doors and they all run out. Michael opens the door but the lock down starts to close it again. Valenti comes and holds the door open so Michael can get Max through. Pierce arrives, gun drawn. Valenti shoots him and Pierce goes down. Valenti and Michael help Max out. Pierce gets up as the door shuts completely. He puts his bloody hand on the scanner but the lock down overrides it. He puts his hands on the glass door, smearing it with blood, and watches them escape.

SYNOPSIS - DESTINY

It's nighttime. Michael and Valenti are helping Max out of the Eagle Rock Military Base. They meet up with Isabel, Tess, Liz, Maria and Alex. Valenti tells them they should split up, to make it more difficult for the FBI to follow, and meet at an old silver mine in Gallinas, to buy themselves some time. Tess asks "Where's Nasedo?" Michael says "Just get in the jeep." Max is with Liz in Maria's car. He changes into the clothes Isabel gave him. The FBI are behind them, shooting at them with machine guns. Liz pulls over and they take off on foot, which is a struggle for Max who is still feeling the effects of his treatment. Cornered on a bridge, they climb on the railing, hold each other's hand, exchange a kiss and jump into the water below. Cut to Max and Liz running through storm drains. They find an abandoned bus and use it as a refuge. Liz kisses Max and is horrified when she sees flashes of what Max went through at the base. Cut to the jeep, where Michael tells Tess Nasedo may not have made it. She says that Nasedo told her that if anything like this ever happened to him she should go to the pod chamber and insists they have to go there. The others disagree. They aren't going anywhere without Max and Liz. They will go to the mine. Cut to the bus, where Max has told Liz about his destiny with Tess. Max wishes things could go back to normal and Liz wishes he never saved her when she was shot because that was the day his life ended. Choked with emotion, Max says, "No, that's the day my life began." He tells her that what got him through the torture was the thought of her; the way her eyes look into his, her smile, the touch of her skin, her lips. "Knowing you has made me human. Whether I die tomorrow or 50 years from now, my destiny is the same...it's you. I want to be with you, Liz. I love you." Liz replies "I love you." and they kiss.

Valenti is at the mine when the kids arrive. They are concerned when they discover that Max and Liz have not yet arrived. Valenti says he needs to retrace their route to find them. Michael goes with him to help. Cut to Max and Liz. It is daybreak; they hear the sound of an approaching car and leave. Cut to Michael asking Valenti why he's helping. He says there's a right side and a wrong side and Pierce is not on the right side. They see Max and Liz running from the agents. Valenti stops and Michael gets out and uses his powers to send a blinding light at the agents, disabling them and their vehicle. Valenti looks on in astonishment. Max and Liz reach them and they all get in the car. Valenti says "What did you do?" and Michael says "I don't know, just go." They take off and return to the mine. Michael and Liz go into the mine. Valenti says "Tell me what just happened back there, Max. All this time I thought it was just you. It's Michael too, isn't it. Isabel? My God...man!" Max says "You swore to me that we could trust you. I need to trust you right now. It's our lives, Sheriff; there's no time for doubts." Valenti says "It's my life too and I need to know everything." Max says "We don't know where we're from. We don't know why we're here. We don't want to hurt anybody, Sheriff, we just want to stay alive." Valenti says his father was right and Max says "But he would have turned us in. What are you going to do?"

In the mine, Michael says "I don't know how I did it. I don't even know what I was trying to do. It just happened." Tess tells him it's his own energy and how he focuses it. Isabel is concerned that Valenti saw him do it. Alex wants to know what they're going to do and Max, entering the mine, says "We are gonna think this through and we're not gonna panic." Max wants to trust Valenti. Tess thinks the 4 of them should go to the chamber to be safe. That Pierce doesn't want the rest of them. Max says "We're not going anywhere. We're taking our lives back." He says they can't keep running. They have to fight. They are stronger than Pierce thinks. "We may be even stronger than we think."

Valenti is listening to the police scanner and hears Pierce talking to his deputy about his absence. Pierce says he has someone "checking on the Sheriff's son." Cut to Agent Samuels at Kyle's saying his orders are to protect him from any harm and Kyle wanting to know if his father is in trouble. Cut to Michael and Isabel, in town, drawing the attention of Agent Bellow, while Tess does her mind trick on both Bellow and Samuel, making them think that Pierce is in front of them telling them to go to an abandoned gas station in Hondo and wait for him. Kyle asks Samuels who he's talking to. Tess breaks the connection and Liz asks "Can you just do that with everyone, make them see things that aren't even there?" Tess replies "Sometimes it's easier to do that than to make someone see something that is right in front of her eyes." Cut to Samuels saying "What the hell just happened here?" Kyle says "I was kinda hoping you could tell me." Max comes in and knocks Samuels out with one punch. Kyle says "What are you doing, he's an FBI agent!" Max locks Samuel in a closet, says Samuels is not what he seems, that he can't explain anything

right now but his father is safe, he doesn't want him involved. Leaving, he tells him not to let Samuels out. As soon as he's gone, Kyle tries to open the closet but Max welded the lock. He goes to the gun rack.

Valenti finds Pierce at the station wearing his deputy uniform. Pierce says "If you're here to kill me, Sheriff, it won't do any good. There'll be a new man in charge of the unit in 24 hours." Valenti tells him he's there because he's scared for himself, for his son, for everyone. Pierce says "You didn't seem scared last night when you put a bullet 6" from my heart." Valenti says things are different from last night; he knows things he didn't before and it's "bigger than you can imagine. I heard them, I know their plan. Right now they're disabling your agents, one by one. You don't believe me? Get them on the radio." Pierce tries and fails. He says "I want those aliens." Valenti wants a deal - a clean record, a full pension for himself and his father and protection for his son. Pierce agrees if Valenti shows him where they are.

That evening, at the UFO Center, Valenti and Pierce watch as Isabel, Liz and Tess enter and go upstairs. Pierce says "As soon as we see them all, shoot to kill, Sheriff." Valenti says "What about the civilians?" Pierce says "There's always a price to pay for freedom, Sheriff." The lights go out. Valenti shouts "Pierce!" There's a struggle. The lights come back on and Pierce and Valenti are on the floor, Max and Michael have their guns and are pointing them at them. Cut to Max tying Pierce to a chair in the Center's theater room. A slide show is projecting on the screen. Max goes up to Valenti and says "I can't believe I trusted you." Michael leads Valenti out of the room, leaving Pierce and Max alone. The roles are reversed now, Pierce is the captive and Max the tormentor. Cut to Michael saying to Valenti "I always thought you were out to get us...and I'm glad I was wrong." He removes the handcuffs. Valenti says "I'll take care of Pierce as soon as Max gets what he needs. Michael asks "What are you gonna do?" Valenti says he put a call into the Attorney General's office. Michael is skeptical that the government will help because they're in on it. Valenti says the government doesn't tolerate secret government action, once the press gets a hold of it. "It's time for this to be over." Cut to Max, who, using words Pierce said to him the day before, softly says "Good evening Agent Pierce. You know who I am, I know who you are and now you're going to tell me everything." Pierce says "I've got nothing to say." Max says "We can do this the easy way or the hard way. It's up to you. What happened to Nasedo? Did you capture him? Did you kill him? Tell me!" Cut to another room where Isabel, Tess, Liz, Maria and Alex are waiting. Isabel is preparing to dreamwalk with Pierce while Max interrogates him to see if Pierce will visualize where Nasedo is. Cut back to Max intensely saying "Where is he? You know what I can do to you. Tell me what I'm asking or I will take you apart, piece by piece and make sure you stay conscious enough to feel every second of it." Pierce says "Untie me and I'll take you to him." Max says "So you do know where he is." Cut to Isabel visualizing Matheson/Nacedo being zipped up in a body bag. Pierce is saying "There is a helo meeting us a Jeffers airstrip out by Hobson. Hold the body there until I bring the others." Nacedo's body is placed in a van marked Kase Security. Isabel comes out of it and says to Tess "I'm sorry, it looks like he's dead." Tess says he can't die because he can be brought back with stones he gave to River Dog. They tell her they have the stones. She says all they need is Nasedo and asks if she saw where he is. Isabel says yes. Cut to Michael asking Valenti if his contact at the Attorney General's is coming there. Valenti says he doesn't know and Michael realizes he never contacted him. Valenti admits that if he had he would have to turn them in too. He reminds Michael that Pierce is a killer. He killed Agents Topolsky and Stevens, the innocent people at the hospital and would have killed all of them. Cut to Pierce, alone in the theater room, until Kyle comes upon him. Pierce tells him that Max has his father and to untie him. He notices the gun Kyle has, tells him to give it to him and to leave. Pierce puts his hands behind his back so when Max, Michael and Valenti come in they are unaware that he is free and are surprised when he stands up and shoots. Valenti pushes Max and Michael out of the line of fire and shoots back. He hits the screen but not Pierce, who dived out of the way. Valenti needs to reload and Pierce is about to shoot him when Michael screams "No!" and sends an energy surge at Pierce that lifts him off his feet and slams him into the screen. Valenti goes to check on him and says "He's dead." Michael is visibly distressed. Valenti recognizes the gun Pierce had as his own and realizes Kyle must be there. He looks behind the screen and sees Kyle lying there bleeding and dying. The others look on in shock. Valenti is crying out "help me". He turns to Max and says "Save my son, please." Max lays his hand on Kyle's wound and concentrates. There is a flash and when he lifts his hand the wound is gone. Kyle says "What the hell just happened to me?" Tears streaming down his face, Valenti says to Max "I don't care who you are or what you are, I'll be here for you. I need a moment with my son." Max goes to Michael and says "You were just trying to stop him. I know you didn't mean to kill him." Michael replies "No, that's just it. I wanted to kill him. I mean, that's all I could think about. I wanted him dead, you know, and then I just did it, it just happened. What kind of person does that make me?" Max says "We would have been dead if you didn't help us." He's not buying it. He says Max is a healer, he's a killer; Max is good, he's bad. Maria comes up to him and he tells her to get away from

him because he's not safe. He can't control his abilities and he doesn't want to take any chances with her; he doesn't want her around for what's going to happen. She says he needs her around now more than ever and he says he doesn't. She asks how he can push her aside so easily and he says "Maybe because I love you too much. Goodbye." Alex says to Isabel "I know what you need to do and I know that you need to do it alone." She hugs him and they kiss. Max says to Liz "I can't make you do this." and Liz replies "You're not making me do anything. We choose our own destinies, remember?" They leave to get Nasedo. Cut to the airstrip where Michael, dressed as an agent, distracts one of the agents guarding the van. Isabel knocks him out with a 2 X 4 and Max does the same with the 2nd guard. They climb into the van and drive off. Cut to the chamber. Max, Michael, Isabel and Tess are kneeling around Nasedo, holding the stones. Liz is observing. The stones and Nasedo start to glow. Nasedo's body changes back and forth between his Matheson persona, his Harding persona and his true self (similar to the small gray aliens with the big eyes at the UFO Center). It ends with the Harding persona, he awakens and stands up. Smiling, Tess says "I knew you wouldn't leave us." He replies "You're not ready to be left alone." Michael says "You're right, we need you. Show us how the orbs work." He says "It's not my job to show you. My only job is to keep you alive." Max says "Your job?" Michael realizes that the orbs communicate with their home planet and asks "Why don't you want us to contact them?" He says that they have no idea who else they may contact and lead straight to them. Max realizes Nasedo doesn't know how to use the orbs or he would have already, and, if he's only there to protect them, then he's not their leader. He asks "But if you're not the leader, who is?" Nasedo turns and looks straight at Max. Realization comes to the others who also look at him. Nasedo says he can't stop them from trying to make the orbs work but they do so at their own risk. Max tells him that as their protector he needs to make sure no one is hunting them. If the FBI find out Pierce is dead, they will replace him, unless they do it first. Nasedo shapeshifts into Pierce and Max tells him he'll find his agents in Hondo. Nasedo leaves. Max picks up an orb and says "I want to know. Maybe if we focus like Nasedo always said." Michael picks up the other orb. Max and Tess hold one together, Michael and Isabel the other. They concentrate and a light emanates from the orbs, goes through an opening in the chamber to the sky. A ball of light appears and transforms into the shape of a human woman. She says "If you are seeing me now, it means you are alive and well. I take this form because it will be familiar to you and it will help you to understand what I am about to say. You have lived before. You perished in the conflict that enslaved our planet but your essence was duplicated, cloned, and mixed with human genetic material so that you might be re-created into human beings. My son, you were the beloved leader of our people. I have sent with you, your young bride. My daughter, the man you were betrothed to and your brother's second in command." Isabel says "Oh my God, Max, our mother." Their mother continues "Our enemies have come to the Earth. You will know them only by the evil within. Learn enough to use your skills, your knowledge, your leadership to combat the enemy so that you can come back and free us and that I may, once again, hold you both in my arms. I live for that moment. Help us. I love you." The image fades and the light goes out. Michael says "I always knew there was something out there but I didn't know how important it was." Max says "Things will never be the same but whatever happens, we have to stay together. It's the 4 of us now." Tess puts her arms around him and says "I knew this was meant to be." Max tells Tess "No" and goes to Liz, who is starting to leave. He takes her arm and says "Everything I told you before is still true." Liz says "Max, you do have a destiny, you just heard it. I can't stand in the way of it." Max looks pained and says "But you mean everything to me." She kisses him and says "Goodbye Max." and leaves. Max goes after her and calls her name. She turns and he can see how much pain she is in. Then she runs off. Michael stops Max from following and says "You gotta let her go." Tess says "What happens now Max?" We can hear a beeping sound. Then we see a hand holding an object with 5 blinking, lighted triangles. Then we see flashes of light at various houses across the land. The man holding the blinking object says "It has begun."