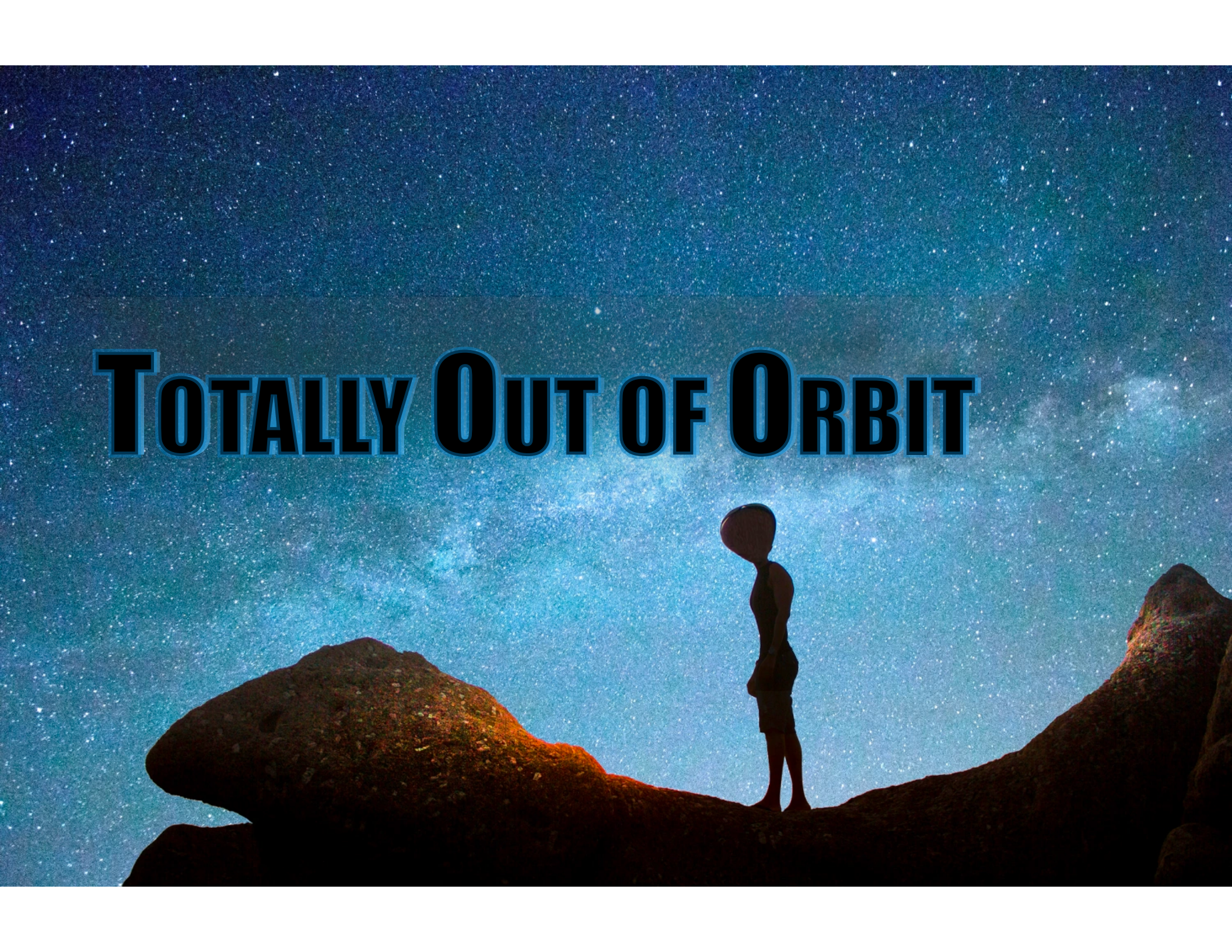


Totally Out of Orbit



TITLE: Totally Out of Orbit

GENRE: Comedy/Fantasy

LOGLINE: After a near-death experience, a high school senior becomes possessed by an invisible alien force that wants to make him a culinary hero. But on a national cooking competition he must learn to outthink the hostile alien frenemy he shares his mind and body with who seems bent on winning at any cost, *including dying all over again.*

COMPS: Ferris Bueller meets Slum Dog Millionaire meets ET.

WHY THIS STORY?: Anyone with food allergies can tell you that eating properly is a chore. And up to 20% of the U.S. population has food intolerances. But by showcasing an extreme allergy case, and then building a TV game show around the hero's problem, we can explore AI personified as a "reckless alien" -- *who wants to change what we eat.*

SEAN NUCLEAMOS (16) is about to die. But worse than that, after he survives, he'll be haunted by a blue alien force that seems to be responsible for all his innumerable troubles: almost skateboarding into a 16 wheeler on the way to school; in homeroom having a public IBS event go viral called "Swamp Diarrhea"; and as the day ends Sean will eat a mysterious Halloween candy that kills him.

Part charismatic geek, part grocery clerk plagued by vicious food allergies, there is absolutely nothing that escapes Sean's encyclopedic knowledge of dangerous ingredients. In fact, he is practically scaring the customers away. But during a late night shift, Sean experiences anaphylactic shock and crosses to the other side where he meets TORK, an interdimensional space guardian who resides at The Starbaby, a hypnagogic hotel in the Oort Cloud.

During his coma, the liquid-like "space guardian" registers Sean as a transient guest in an abandoned room filled with all of Sean's lost memories. We learn of Sean's traumatic birth where his mother chooses the baby to survive; we see childhood struggles with respiratory illness, stomach aches, and rashes; and finally a future where Sean dies on national television. After ICU, allergy testing and post-anastasis therapy, Sean's family tries to pivot the family diet. But Sean, haunted by hallucinations, is caught between two worlds -- *and mysteriously dripping buckets of water!*

His brother Adam suggests Sean is mutating into a dolphin, should be homeschooled, and move into the swimming pool. But a holistic medicine man tells Sean's family that Sean is Chief Crazy Weather, a spiritual being that connects him to the origins of Earth, one who has been chosen to protect Earth from climate disaster. When Grandma has the water carbon dated, proving it's 3.2 billion years old, Sean recalls a portal through a hospital vending machine, a "trigger" hallucination that he learns leaves water at his feet.

Struggling to understand the hydronium forces that are mutating his personality, Sean endures a version of high-Latin Tourettes, decodes esoteric animal phyla in biology, gains superelastic body

movements, capable of playing dual positions on the basketball court in gym, and in home economics he bakes a cupcake that spontaneously projects across the classroom, injuring classmates, and nearly choking his baking partner to death. Needless to say Sean's life has gone totally out of orbit, and in a matter of hours he is suspended for disrupting the entire school.

Stuck at home for a few days, his grandmother insists Sean is going through some kind of cosmic evolution, and encourages him to face his fate directly by learning meditation and fasting on alkaline water. When the forces bent on ruining Sean's life seem to have abated, he is asked to pick up some groceries for his grandma. Triggered by the sprinklers in the produce section, Sean makes it thunder and rain inside the grocery store, ruining all the product and evacuating the customers to the parking lot.

After the police visit the Nucleamos' residence, PEDRO, Sean's dad, refutes his mother's mystical hype, and offers a more scientific explanation of Sean's impossible water powers. According to one doctor, Pedro suggests that Sean's body may have developed an epigenetic survival response, i.e. a single generation mutation that helps Sean get rid of food toxins by profuse sweating, aka hyperhidrosis disease -- a viable if temporary explanation. But Sean has now become a public menace.

Later that night, Sean continues to hallucinate and drip buckets of water, eventually meeting Tork in a dream who is made of 100% intelligent space water, also known as H₃O or hydronium -- which controls Sean's mutant personality. In the dream Sean is given a clue: *that he can only control his mind by controlling his body.*

The next day, returning to school, Sean wears a wetsuit, which earns him the nickname "pool boy," "miracle puddle" and "quantum soup." As he learns to deal with the alien inhabitation, Sean gains hydronium powers that enable full body and voice impersonations, turning him from the butt of everyone's jokes into the new class clown. Embracing his liquid weirdness earns Sean the attention of a popular girl who asks him out to the school dance.

Preparing for his big date, Sean has a mirror moment when what he sees in the mirror reacts to what he says. While fixing his hair to get ready for homecoming, his hairdo goes flat dripping product down his face. In despair, Sean curses at the mirror, watching his hair curl back into position at his command, mastering new skill.

At the homecoming dance, Sean turns water into ice cubes, spikes the punch bowl with hydronium, causing everyone to hallucinate aliens, and becomes the life of the party when he telekinetically pours party punch into glasses, and turns the chocolate fountain into a rip tide that floods the bully prom king's coronation dance with a wave of liquid chocolate: *"Who's got swamp diarrhea now?!"*

Later that night, in a profound night sweat, Sean sleepwalks to the fridge fully naked, eating everything in sight with an insatiable rage, inventing new recipes that are recorded and posted by the smart fridge cam, making him an internet sensation by dawn. Still evolving his powers, Sean comes out of the swimming pool completely dry, and develops the skill to do aerial stunts

with snacks while skateboarding. Gaining a fan base, he is invited onto a national cooking competition, *GastroPunk*, where he will be challenged to invent a new grocery product that Americans love. But competition is tough. Even though contestants are not required to have any culinary skill, their creativity is fierce. Sean battles a MIXOLOGIST who invents new flavors, a FANTASY FOOD QUEEN who creates recipes from fairy tales, and at every game level he must push his skateboard cuisine, aka "recipe remix," to the max. The rollercoaster of foodie games challenge players to create signature drinks, collaborate on a charity catering event, and shape their unique food brand into a pop-up restaurant experience.

Each of the contestants, however, has a specific dietary condition including hypoglycemia, brumotactilophobia, and bulimia, giving inspiration to their personalized cuisines that America will vote into a new grocery product -- *a grand prize to be released into grocery aisles across the U.S.!*

Ultimately, in order to reclaim his free will and sanity, Sean will face-off against Tork, whose inverted body-over-mind takeover tactics continuously sabotage Sean's culinary efforts on national television. After his skateboard foods fail to impress the JUDGES, Sean must learn to fend off hallucinations sent by Tork, which are really recipe pranks, while playing against influencer chefs whose inventive foods have earned audience support. But lacking any real culinary skill, Sean discovers he can tell stories while cooking, which earns increasing support of his outlandish grocery concepts.

Struggling against the other players, during an ingredient hunt in the final round, Sean is sabotaged by a bag of flour, setting off a dust cloud. Inside the nebula of flour, he recalls the moment he died at the grocery store. Holding on that vision, he sees a ring of ingredients combine into the very product that killed him. But choking on flour dust, he is placed onto oxygen, where he gains control over his imagination just long enough to fight Tork's mind-body takeover. Trickling then bursting into liquid on TV, Sean breaks the hydronium spell with a winning product, the "Oort Bar," part solid, part liquid, that captures America's imagination.

During talk show rounds, Sean reflects on his journey from grocery clerk to grocery hero, revealing how *GastroPunk*, the crowdsourced game show, pushed him to use his imagination to improve the health of American food, so that he can eat just like everyone else. But bothered by Tork one last time, Sean walks out of the interview, followed by TV cameras to the beach, where The Starbaby hotel, a swirling Oort Cloud formation in the daylight sky becomes visible, amidst a rainstorm that begins pouring upward into the heavens.

With thousands of people gathered, Tork's mass hallucination gives proof of alien life. But Tork's departure leaves Sean in tears, as Tork reveals an apparition of Sean's mother, then of himself as an electric blue water cloud that vanishes into the exosphere. Tork's final message written in the sky tells Sean: *"Earth is just a restaurant where you must eat or be eaten; but that your brain is a hotel where you must use your imagination to grow."* The power of his mother's love, having reached across dimensions, broadcast on national TV, explains Sean's bizarre and magical encounter, and shocks the nation with a deeper vision of our existence on earth.