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 TV game show he will discover the true mission of the alien is to take over American Cuisine, cancel all grocery products, and restore humans into a hunter-gatherer civilization.

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 battle against a reckless alien, *who wants to destroy the food Americans love.*

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 hypnogogic 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 Krazy 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 projectiles across the classroom, injuring class-

mates, 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 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 memories of dying 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 H_30 or hydronium -- which controls Sean's mutant behaviors. In the dream, Sean is given a clue: *to control his powers he must change his "personality."*

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 skills that enable full body and voice impersonations, turning him from the butt of everyones' 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 while fixing his hair in the bathroom. When his hair begins morphing through several different hairstyles, which results in product dripping down his face, in a moment of fury, he decides to shave his head -- a tactic, he will soon discover, that gives him unlimited power.

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 glucose intolerance, giving inspiration to the 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 earn his culinary independence, Sean must face-off against Tork, whose invasive mind-body tactics continuously sabotage Sean’s culinary efforts on national television. But when his skateboard foods fail to impress the JUDGES, fueled by Tork’s hallucinations, Sean begins to stir distrust in the American food system, causing his fans to riot, loot, and crash the stock market agro sector. With his personality becoming more competitive and unethical, he stages pranks against his fellow influencer chefs, which could have lethal consequences. Lacking any real culinary skill, Sean learns to use knife-in-the-back kitchen technique, which earns him respect from the judges as he pivots his food brand into more outlandish grocery concepts.

In the lurches of an all out foodie war, 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 is transported to the moment he died at the grocery store. In the vision, he sees a floating orbit of ingredients which killed him, recombined into a new recipe. Choking on flour dust, he is placed on oxygen, where he regains control over his imagination just long enough to fight off Tork’s mind-body trickery. On the edge of total dehydration, and nearly bursting into flames, Sean invents the “Oort Bar” (part solid, part liquid), which breaks the hydronium spell and becomes the winning grocery product 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 becomes visible.

Suddenly, a rainstorm begins pouring upward into the heavens. With thousands of people gathered, Tork’s mass hallucination gives proof of alien life. But Tork’s departure warns Earthlings that they must learn to control their appetites if they are to continue to evolve. He explains that *“Earth is just a restaurant to help your body grow; but that your brain is your other stomach, and that you must ultimately feed your imagination to grow.”*

As Tork departs into an exosphere of blue vapor, the newly enlightened Sean, passing out Oort Bars to his fans, explains that eventually in order to visit the hotel beyond the twilight sky, we must one day leave the restaurant we have come to know and love.