GRAEAE’S MIDWICH CUCKOOS

EPISODE 2

BY ROY WILLIAMS

AS MIXED, NOVEMBER 2017

**SCENE ONE. YEAR: 2018**

**FX. CLOSE TO MIKE. ZELLBERBY FUMBLING AROUND WITH WIRES AND CABLES.**

ZELLERBY Come on….Come on, where is it? Ah! Finally!

ZELLEBY PLUGS A CABLE INO HIS RECORDER, THEN A PLUG INTO THE MAINS. HE TURNS THE RECORDER BACK ON.

ZELLERBY Right! Me again Anthea. Sorry about that, this machine just decided to die on me. I had to plug it in. You know what I am like with technology, flipping well hopeless, as you used to say. I just hope that you don’t blame me or hate me for anything that Michaela may have told you by now. I swear to you, at no point, was she in any danger, I would have given my life to protect her, but I believe I am doing that right now. Now I am telling you all of this because I need you, more than anyone else my darling, to understand what is going through my mind right now. Why I have done all of this, and what I am about to do. I do not give a damn what anyone else thinks, you and Michaela are the ones in my thoughts right now. If only I had listened to you, my love. If only,.

**SCENE TWO.**

**OUTSIDE ZELLERBY’S HOUSE.**

**YEAR: 2018.**

BOY 18 You should break your bottle in half.

ZELLERBY What?

GIRL 18 You should break the bottle in half right now.

ZELLERBY No, wait stop.

NEIL (IN A TRANCE) Yes, yes I should.

ZELLERBY No, stop this.

**NEIL SMASHES THE BOTTLE IN HALF.**

ZELLERBY What are you doing? What are you all doing?

GIRL 18 Press the remainder of the bottle against your neck.

ZELLERBY For God’s sake, stop.

NEIL Yes, yes I should.

ZELLERBY Children, please?

BOY 18 Insert the glass into your neck.

ZELLERBY No, no!

NEIL Yes, yes I should.

ZELLERBY For God’s sake, man,

NEIL I should.

ZELLERBY Listen to yourself, they want to kill you.

GIRL 18 Insert.

ZELLERBY No, no.

**NEIL INSERTS THE BOTTLE INTO HIS NECK.**

ZELLERBY Oh God no!

**NEIL CHOKES IN AGONY AND HE COLLAPSES DOWN DEAD**

ZELLERBY Is that still the police? You need to get over here, yes the Grange, now for God’s sake! (HANGS UP) Why did you do that? All of you? Don’t just stand there. For God’s sake, why, tell me why? Answer me.

GIRL 18 He had meant us harm, Professor.

BOY 18 And no harm must come to us.

GIRL 18 No harm at all

BOY 18 No harm!

ZELLERBY Why do you say that? No harm must come to you? Why would you say that? What do you mean by that?

GIRL 18 We will not be harmed, Professor.

ZELLERBY You just killed someone, a human being.

**MICHAELA COMES OUTSIDE.**

GIRL 18 (SNAPS) And your kind have killed us, Professor.

BOY 18 Or did you think we wouldn’t know about that?

ZELLERBY You mean what happened in Greenland? I had nothing to do with that, neither did this man.

GIRL 18 We know that, but we won’t be harmed again, Professor.

MICHAELA Dad? Dad, what is happening?

 ZELLERBY *Michaela, no! Don’t come out here*.

 MICHAELA: Are you alright?

 ZELLERBY I am fine, but Michaela please?

 MICHAELA Who is that man, what has happened?

 ZELLERBBY I do not want you seeing this. Please Michaela.

 BOY 18 Hello, Michaela.

 ZELLERBY Leave her alone.

GIRL 18 It is really good to see you again, after so long.

ZELLERBY I said stay away from her.

 BOY 18 Professor?

 ZELLERBY I said leave her alone. Do not look at her, do not even speak with her. You stay away from my daughter. Do I make myself clear?

MICHAELA Dad, it is alright.

 GIRL 18 There is really no need to be so angry with us, Professor.

 ZELLEERBY There is really no need to be so angry? Are you joking? You have just killed a man!

BOY 18 How can you prove that’s what we did?

ZELLERBY How can I prove? I just saw you do it?

GIRL 18 Saw what, Professor?

BOY 18 What do you think you saw?

 ZELLERBY You made him do that.

GIRL 18 Did we?

ZELLERBY You made him, damnit! Listen to me, I cannot help you with this. This has gone too far.

BOY 18 Yes you will.

ZELLERBY I beg your pardon?

GIRL 18 You are going to help us.

 BOY 18 You will help us professor.

 ZELLERBY Why would I do that?

 GIRL 18 Because it is your job.

 ZELLERBY Right now, I feel I have failed in my job. Don’t you understand what has happened? Have you no human feelings?

 BOY 18 You opened this special school for us. You did it because we are different. We may be morally responsible for this man’s death, but that is not the same as being legally responsible. There is nothing anybody can charge us with.

 ZELLERBY Children can still be charged. Have you learnt nothing from what I taught you? The entire town will go mad. You will not get away scot free.

MICHAELA My dad is right.

ZELLERBY Michaela!

MICHAELA You won’t get away.

ZELLERBY Get back inside, I am handling this.

MICHAELA Well, you are not doing a very good job.

ZELLERBY You want to have an argument with me now?

GIRL 18 We don’t care about that. It’s not relevant.

ZELLERBY Oh yes it is, of course it is, it will be relevant.

 BOY 18 But we are still children. The law cannot touch us.

MICHAELA It’s not the law, you should be worried about, it’s the mob. There’s more of them there is of you.

BOY 18 Will your government let it come to that?

ZEWLLERBY No, but they will take you away. They will hold you.

 GIRL 18 They can try.

BOY 18 He doesn’t get it yet.

ZELLERBY Get what? What am I not getting?

GIRL 18 If your government or anyone tries to take us to hurt us on any way, we will defend ourselves. You have just seen that we can, you should tell them what we’ve done, tell them it’s a warning, we don’t want any more trouble.

 ZELLERBY Who are you?

MICHAELA Your precious children, Dad.

ZELLERBY Michaela, please?

 BOY 18 She is right, we are your children, Professor.

 ZELLERBY Do not say that, do not! Who are you? Who are you really! What are you? What are you doing here?

FADE

**SCENE FOUR.**

**YEAR: 2018.**

**THE CHILDREN ARE TAKING A WALK THROUGH THE FIELD.**

 BOY 18 We are troubled by your attempt to answer the question the professor put to us earlier.

 GIRL 18 The professor asked if we could die.

 BOY 18 What of it?

 GIRL 18 They already know that we can.

 BOY 18 But you were breaking the link.

 GIRL 18 That was not my intention.

 BOY 18 But that is what happened.

 GIRL 18 We are of one mind.

 BOY 18 They cannot break us.

 GIRL 18 They will not break us. But we have lived so long among them.

 BOY 18 What is your point?

GIRL 18 Their confusion. Their contradiction.

BOY 18 Is what makes then weak

GIRL 18 Yet they remain so interesting.

BOY 18 Not for long.

GIRL 18 Of course. I understand. Is it so wrong to adopt their habits?

BOY 18 No, but you do not break the link.

GIRL 18 I must never do that again.

 BOY 18 Their minds are too small.

GIRL 18 I will never do so again.

BOY 18 We have spoken to our friends overseas. They are ready.

GIRL 18 Then this shall be easy.

BOY 18 The humans are more divided than we thought.

GIRL 18 But they know they can harm us, that they can kill us.

BOY 18 So, there is no need for them to find out anything more about us.

GIRL 18 Yes, I understand.

BOY 18 Good,

**FX. MICHAELA APPROACHES.**

 MICHAELA (CALLS) Hey, hey!

 BOY 18 Good evening, Michaela.

GIRL 18 Hello Michaela. It’s nice to see you.

 MICHAELA I want to talk to you.

 BOY 18 How may we help you?

 MICHAELA Why did you kill that man, why did you do that?

 BOY 18 You are not pleased that he is dead?

 MICHAELA Why would I be pleased about that?

 GIRL 18 Because you hated him Michaela.

 BOY 18 Is that not so?

 GIRL 18 Their kind bullied you.

BOY 18 They tormented you.

 GIRL 18 They all did.

 BOY 18 Is that not so, Michaela?

 MICHAELA Yes, they all did, but he did not deserve to die.

 GIRL 18 We did not kill him.

BOY 18 He put the bottle to his neck himself.

 MICHAELA You made him.

 GIRL 18 Why are you pretending to be outraged?

 MICHAELA Because I am.

 BOY 18 But that is not true Michaela.

 GIRL 18 You despised him.

 BOY 18 You despise them for how they made you feel.

MICHAELA What do you know? That was a long time ago.

 BOY 18 That you do not belong.

MICHAELA I grew up.

 GIRL 18 You still feel you don’t belong.

MICHAELA You don’t know me.

GIRL 18 To your father.

MICHAELA Shut up.

GIRL 18 He makes you feel that way, does he not?

MICHAELA My father is a good man.

BOY 18 But do you really believe that?

MICHAELA He does not know that I know this, but before I was born my dad was arrested once for assault in London. He was out with my mother and some man was abusing them, calling him black this, black that, calling my mother a whore for being seen out with him. Dad grabbed the man, and beat his face in against the floor. My dad! So, if you think he does not know how to fight, you’re wrong.

BOY 18 So, your father defended himself and the ones he loves.

GIRL 18 Just as we have.

MICHAELA He didn’t kill that man though, he just hurt him.

 Because he knew, even then he did not have the

right to decide who lives and dies, and neither do you.

GIRL 18 We have been teaching your father to sign. But he rarely signs with you. Why is that Michaela

MICHAELA Have you? I didn’t know.

 BOY 18 How frustrating that must be for you.

 MICHAELA What do you mean?

GIRL 18 To be seen.

 BOY 18 To be expected.

 GIRL 18 To function.

BOY 18 To perform.

GIRL 18 As they would expect you to.

BOY 18 As opposed to the other way round.

GIRL 18 Michaela?

MICHAELA What?

BOY 18 You may speak truthfully with us.

MICHAELA Can you read my mind?

 BOY 18 No, but we can sense minds.

 GIRL 18 We can sense an emotion.

BOY 18 We sense your anger.

GIRL 18 Your frustration.

 MICHAELA Yeah, I hate him sometimes…..

 BOY 18 We know.

 GIRL 18 Why should you be like them?

BOY 18 They should be like you.

MICHAELA Or you? That is what you really mean, don’t you? You want me to be like you

 GIRL 18 That would be quite impossible, Michaela.

 MICHAELA Then why are you here?

 BOY 18 We told you that once before Michaela.

GIRL 18 We have come here to live.

MICHAELA Just to live.

BOY 18 Yes.

MICHAELA And if others like that man will not let you? And there will be others you know. Dad wasn’t lying about that, neither was I. They’ll be coming for you.

GIRL 18 Then we will stop them.

 MICHAELA Hs name was Neil. The man you killed….The man who died.

 BOY 18 We meant Neil no harm.

 GIRL 18 We only mean to defend ourselves.

 MICHAELA If you think the rest of the town will see it that way, then you really are more stupid than I think. You are nothing but a bunch of freaks to them. They will come after you. Everyone in the town will come for you.

BOY 18 That would be most unfortunate.

 GIRL 18 For them.

 BOY 18 That is.

 MICHAELA Are you going to hurt them as well? Are you going to hurt me?

 GIRL 18 That depends if you hurt us.

 BOY 18 But we must complete our mission.

 MICHAELA What is that? What is your mission?

GIRL 18 We told you.

BOY 18 We wish to live.

**SCENE FIVE.**

**YEAR 2018. ZELLERBY AND MICHAELA ARE WATCHING THE NEWS.**

*REPORTER 1 As yet, the government is revealing no exact details as to what may have occurred in Russia, but there is much speculation that the Russian government has indeed shut down the Internet across the nation. Not possible you ask? Well it seems the Russian Government have made it possible.*

 **FADE**

*REPORTER 2 Why the Russian government have chosen this extraordinary step, is anybody’s guess. Very little information is getting into that country, and almost nothing is coming out. What happened in the town of Gizhinsk earlier that day? How could an entire town be wiped off the face the earth in a matter of seconds*?

 **FADE**

*REPORTER 3 Earlier reports, before the internet black out, suggest that a short range ballistic missile destroyed the town. Is that true? Other reports suggest it was the Russians themselves from one of their own submarines that had launched the missile. If so why? Over a thousand people resided in the town of Gizhinsk, and most of us are at a loss as to why the Russian government felt it necessary to destroy it. Was it a chemical outbreak of some kind? Join us for more on this after the break.*

 **FADE**

*REPORTER 4 The Prime Minister has already expressed her shock at this news. Whether that shock will turn to absolute horror and condemnation remains to be seen. What is now completely certain is that the entire world is watching Russia right now with great interest, and Internet or not, they will be forced to answer some very serious questions over the coming days.*

 **FADE**

**ZELLERBY TURNS OFF THE TELEVISON WITH A REMOTE**

ZELLERBY Oh God help us.

MICHAELA They killed them? Why would the Russians do that? To their own people?

ZELLERBY I have no idea.

MICHAELA I wasn’t asking you, I was just asking aloud.

ZELLERBY I know you were darling, I am as horrified as you.

MICHAELA What’s the matter, Dad?

ZELLERBY Nothing’s the matter. This is terrible. That’s all.

MICHAELA What’s wrong?

ZELLERBY Nothing is wrong my love, Not a thing.

 **ZELLERBY’S PHONE RINGS.**

ZELLERBY I’ll be back in a moment, darling.

MICHAELA Dad!

 **ZELLERBY GOES OUT OF THE ROOM TO TAKE THE CALL**

ZELLERBY Yes, Janet!

*JANET Let me come straight to the point Gordon.*

ZELLERBY When have you never?

*JANET We are coming for the children. I am sending my men out the Grange now.*

ZELLERBY I thought you might.

*JANET They should be with you within the hour. Have the children ready.*

ZELLERBY They will be tied up in a chair, and prodded with sticks and God knows what else, and you damn well know it.

*JANET Haver you watched the news? Have you seen what the Russians have done to their own children?*

ZELLERBY So, it was about the children?

*JANET You should be grateful, a few prods with a needle is all they are going to get over here.*

ZELLERBY Why? What happened? What did they do?

*JANET We don’t know exactly*.

ZELLERBY (DOES NOT BELIEVE HER) Janet?

*JANET I said I don’t know. Except that the children had gone mad or something and the townspeople were in fear of their lives. That is all we managed to find out.*

ZELLERBY So, the Russians decided to destroy their own town?

*JANET Well clearly, they knew exactly what they were dealing with. Which is more than I can say for us.*

ZELLERBY So, what’s the cover story for this, do you think?

*JANET I don’t think Gordon, I know. Once they have covered their tracks, the Internet will be back online. They will release a statement, informing the entire world one of their missiles was fired onto that town by mistake. The government are* *horrified and express extreme remorse at the sad and sudden terrible loss of life. A horrific accident, just like Chernobyl.*

ZELLERBY Chernobyl? You mean to say that…

*JANET That is another conversation for another time. Now, you need to get those children ready.*

ZELLERBY Janet, are we sure?

*JANET You told me, they have killed again.*

 ZELLERBY Yes, it was dreadful. But at the same time, extraordinary. They had complete control over his mind. It was incredible

 *JANET There you go again.*

 ZELLERBY I can’t help it, it was.

JANETY Your daughter could be in danger Gordon, we all could.

ZELLERBY Yes, yes, but this is not the way. If they can make one man kill himself, what do you think they are capable of doing with men who carry guns for a living?

*JANET Well it looks like we are about to find out.*

ZELLERBY You still haven’t changed, have you Janet? Still trying to prove to yourself that you are one of the boys.

*JANET I have no time for your cod psychology Gordon. I have my orders. We are coming in to get those children.*

ZELLERBY Yes, whatever you say, Colonel Westcott!!

 **ZELLERBY HANGS UP**

MICHAELA (APPROACHES) Colonel Westcott?

ZELLERBY Must you lip read every conversation I have on the telephone? It was also a private conversation Michaela.

MICHAELA What did Westcott want?

ZELLERBY It is Aunt Janet to you.

MICHAELA Alright what did *Aunt Janet* want?

ZELLERBY Nothing that you need to concern yourself with.

MICHAELA Its about the children isn’t it? It has to be. It always is. Dad? Hello?

ZELLERBY Its nothing.

MICHAELA Do not patronise me. Tell me what she said. I know we are in danger.

ZELLERBY You need to leave. Please Michaela, for once in your life, do as I say.

MICHAELA Dad, I am staying with you.

ZELLERBY Michaela.

MICHAELA I want you to trust me.

ZELLERBY I do.

MICHAELA Dad, the children trust me. Did you know they can sign, every single one of them?

ZELLERBY The children?

 MICHAELA They can sign beautifully, and I know they have been teaching you, so why don’t you sign?

ZELLERBY You lipread so well and I am too slow to learn but that is not the point. What have the children said to you?

MICHAELA Dad, it is exactly the point, but you are never going to understand that, are you?

ZELLERBY What did they do, what did they say exactly?

MICHAELA They talked to me. They made time for me

ZELLERBY Time for you?

 MICHAELA They understood me.

 ZELLERBY You have ever been interested in them in the past. Why now?

 MICHAELA You favoured them over me. I wanted to understand.

 ZELLERBY Oh Michaela. I never favoured them. They are my job, it’s my work.

MICHAELA Mum is not here because of your work, what does that tell you?

ZELLERBY That I have made great sacrifices in my life, yes. But that does not make me inhuman, my God!

MICHAELA You are not listening to what I am saying.

ZELLERBY Well what then?

MICHAELA I am a lot like you, did you ever not think of that?

ZELLERBY Sorry?

MICHAELA Of course you don’t.

ZELLERBY What do you mean?

MICHAELA Remember. You made me sign in front of the children when they were really young. And they all learned from each other, like you said. Because of what I showed them.

ZELLERBY And how did that make you feel?

MICHAELA Excited. Really bloody excited.

ZELLERBY Like nothing else?

MICHAELA Like nothing since, yes. In that moment, I knew what it felt like to be like you.

ZELLERBY To have these children in your head, and nothing else?

MICHAELA Yes, it does not make it right but yes.

ZELLERBY Then you know how powerful they are, how dangerous they are. You know what I mean. Now look at me Michaela, look at me, read my lips. YOU. NEED. TO GO.

MICHAELA Don’t you understand, I am not a child. I am staying here with you.

 (**CHILDREN APPROACH)**

GIRL 18 You should tell her the truth professor.

BOY 18 You know what is happening.

GIRL 18 You know only too well.

BOY 18 Tell her Professor.

 GIRL 18 Tell her what they have done.

 BOY 18 Tell her what they have done to us.

GIRL 18 Tell her now.

ZELLERBY Calm down, all of you.

 MICHAELA Dad? What they are talking about?

ZELLERBY Nothing my darling, I haven’t done anything.

MICHAELA You’re lying.

ZELLERBY Michaela?

MICHAELA Tell me what has happened, what have you done?

 ZELLERBY Nothing, I swear.

GIRL 18 Your kind have always done something.

 MICHAELA Dad? Tell me now. Dad, please please sign, please.

GIRL 18 Tell her Professor, tell her about Russia.

MICHAELA Russia?

ZELLERBY Michaela, it is nothing.

MICHAELA The thing that has just happened on the news? Is it about the town, the one in Russia? They had children there, didn’t they? Dad, answer me.

 ZELLERBY Yes, yes they did.

MICHAELA And the Russians killed them, didn’t they, Dad?

 ZELLERBY Yes Michaela, they killed them.

MICHAELA Everyone?

ZELLERBY They are dead, darling, they all dead. The Russians had no choice.

 MICHAELA No choice?

 ZELLERBY I’m not saying I agree with them, Michaela.

 MICHAELA No choice other than to kill people, kill children?

 ZELLERBY What if they are not children?

MICHAELA So, that is what Westcott wanted?

ZELLERBY What if they are not what they say they are?

MICHAELA Look at them, Dad.

 ZELLERBY What if they are something else?

MICHAELA Like what?

 GIRL 18 Say it Professor.

 ZELLERBY I am talking to my daughter.

 BOY 18 Say what is on your mind.

 GIRL 18 We are not of this Earth?

 MICHAELA Aliens? Dad?

**MICHAELA LAUGHS**

 GIRL 18 Is that what you think we are, Professor?

BOY 18 That we are aliens?

ZELLERBY Please, I have no idea what you are. All I ask, is, whatever you are planning, please stop it. Stop it now.

GIRL 18 You don’t know what our plans are

BOY 18 You have no idea what we plan to do.

GIRL 18 Or even how we plan to do it.

ZELLERBY You are right, I do not. But I can hazard a pretty good guess: what has happened in Russia may have accelerated your plan, whatever that plan is.

GIRL 18 You are a smart man, Professor.

BOY 18 We were really glad you were chosen.

ZELLERBY Chosen?

MICHAELA You chose my dad?

BOY 18 To look after us, of course.

GIRL 18 For that we thank you.

ZELLERBY Thank me? You are thanking me?

 BOY 18 Yes.

ZEWLLERBY Forgive me, but that almost sounds like a farewell.

GIRL 18 We are going to leave.

BOY 18 That is our intention.

GIRL 18 But they really should not have attacked us like that.

BOY 18 They should not have harmed us.

GIRL 18 They should have left us alone.

MICHAELA Those children in Russia, did you know them as well?

BOY 18 Those children are us, Michaela.

GIRL 18 Or should we say, were us.

 ZELLERBY Were you? I do not understand.

 BOY 18 We would not expect you to, Professor. It is far beyond your level of understanding.

ZELLERBY It does not have to be. You communicated with them. You spoke with them, you planned.

GIRL 18 Yes.

ZELLERBY Is that how you knew?

BOY 18 Well of course it is.

ZELLERBY How you caused the crash, how you made that boy Neil attack himself the way you did. So, what is the plan then? For you to make us all attack ourselves or each other? Is that what you want from us, is that your plan? Well is it?

MICHAELA Dad, don’t.

ZELLERBY Don’t just stand there, looking all innocent. Is that the plan?

MICHAELA Dad, please?

BOY 18 Yes Professor, that is the plan.

GIRL 18 The plan of many.

ZELLERBY Can you not see what you are doing with your plan, your plan of many? Can you not feel anything?

GIRL 18 We don’t want to hear any more from you, be silent.

ZELLERBY I will not…

BOY 18 You will be silent.

GIRL 18 You will be silent now.

BOY 18 You will be seated.

 MICHAELA What are you doing?

 ZELLERBY (In a trance) I will silent. I will be seated.

MICHAELA What are you doing to my dad? Stop it. Let him go.

BOY 18 But he is one of them, Michaela.

GIRL 18 One who does not understand you.

BOY 18 Or us.

GIRL 18 We want to be free of their indifference.

BOY 18 Don’t you want to be free as well Michaela?

MICHAELA I don’t need my dad dead for that. I’m already free. Let him go!

**ZELLERBY IS RELEASED. HE GASPS FOR AIR.**

 MICHAELA Dad? Dad, are you alright?

 ZELLERBY Yes… Yes I am fine. What happened, what did they make me do?

 MICHAELA Nothing. You’re alright.

 BOY 18 You have your daughter to thank for that, Professor.

ZELLERBY My daughter?

GIRL 18 Look at him Michaela, look at how surprised he is, that someone like you, has saved his life.

ZELLERBY That is not what I meant.

BOY 18 Isn’t it?

GIRL 18 From the time we were born, you have been fascinated by us.

BOY 18 You have been watching us

GIRL 18 All at the expense of your own daughter.

ZELLERBY That is none of your business.

BOY 18 To you, we represent true perfection. In every way.

GIRK Whereas your daughter is the complete opposite.

BOY 18 A deficiency, you couldn’t cope with.

ZELLERBY No, stop it, that is enough.

MICHAELA But it’s true Dad, you know it is.

BOY 18 All she has ever done is love you, Professor.

GIRL 18 She never frightened you, or feared you, the way we just made you feel.

ZELLERBY I do love her. Michaela?

MICHAELA Dad you’re right, not now.

 ZELLERBY Alright, listen to me, all of you. You are angry about something, I can tell.

BOY 18 Angry?

GIRL 18 We are not angry.

BOY 18 We are disappointed.

ZELLERBY I do not believe for a minute it was disappointment that made you crash the car, made Neil kill himself?

GIRL 18 Are you trying to scare us into revealing something about ourselves, Professor?

BOY 18 Because it is not working.

GIRL 18 And we can make you silent again.

MICHAELA If you hurt him, you will have to hurt me too.

ZELLERBY It is your next move that concerns me. It frightens me even.

BOY 18 Maybe it should

 GIRL 18 We must defend ourselves

BOY 18 That is our responsibility.

 ZELLERBY To the extent of three lives already?

 GIRL 18 Those three people were going to harm us.

BOY 18 They wanted to kill us.

GIRL 18 They would have come again if we hadn’t have stopped them

GIRL 18 Just like those Russians came for the children.

BOY 18 Just like the people here coming for us.

GIRL 18 Aren’t they Professor?

BOY 18 Aren’t they coming for us right now?

MICHAELA Is she right Dad, are they coming for them?

ZELLERBY You left them no choice.

MIXHAELA So you need to go.

GIRL 18 They will always come, won’t they?

ZELLERBY Yes they will

GIRL 18 They will come again

BOY 18 And again.

GIRL 18 And again.

MICHAELA But it does not have to be this way.

ZELLERBY Michaela, it is pointless.

MICHAELA Dad, let me try. (TO THE CHILDREN) You defended yourselves. There are some who will understand that. Won’t they Dad?

BOY 18 We don’t care if they do or don’t understand.

ZELLERBY Yes you do.

GIRL 18 You don’t know us as well as you think Professor.

BOY 18 We need to protect ourselves now.

MICHAELA You are talking vengeance. Vengeance is not the same as protection.

BOY 18 No. We’re talking protection.

ZELLERBY Yes. You may not believe this, but the law is there for your protection. Why do you think you were not harmed or interfered with since you were born?

GIRL 18 We didn’t see the law protect us from those boys in the car. It would not have protected us from Neil last night. Your law can only punish the person after he’s committed the crime. What use is that to us? We intend to stay alive.

ZELLERBY But you do not mind being responsible, so you tell me, for the deaths of other people.

 BOY 18 Do we have to go around in circles, Professor?

ZELLERBY You are incapable of judging your own strength.

 GIRL 18 We are not supposed to.

ZELLERBY Alright then, now listen. We can resolve this. Russia was terrible, But I urge you all not to take any action, please? Last night with Neil…. was not your fault.

BOY 18 We know that.

ZELLERBY You did not lay a finger on him. There is no forensic proof.

GIRL 18 What are you saying Professor?

ZELLERBY What I saw would never hold up in court. You were frightened of Neil, you had no idea what he was doing, none at all. You were concerned for your safety, you were scared. And why wouldn’t you be, after all, you are all very young. You may look twice your natural, age, but even that's not very old, now is it? You mean no one any harm. I don’t believe you really mean the harm you did. You were frightened.

GIRL 18 We were concerned.

MICHAELA I’d be like you, frightened or concerned if a crowd came to our house wanting to burn it down. We should have a right to defend ourselves, and nobody could blame you.

ZELLERBY If the villagers came to anyone else’s house like that, they would almost certainly, and should, defend it with whatever they could get their hands on, a gun, a knife– perhaps an axe, it will not matter. It was a very drastic remedy that you all took.

GIRL 18 But when you are young and frightened it is very easy to be more violent than you mean to be, right?

BOY 18 Were there not any injustices that made you angry when you were young?

MICHAELA Tell them, Dad.

 ZELLERBY Of course there were.

GIRL 18 You were taunted.

ZELLERBY You know about that? Michaela?

BOY 18 The man called you names.

ZELLERBY Yes, what about him?

GIRL 18 What if you could do what we do?

BOY 18 What if you had our strength back then?

GIRL 18 It would have been bad for that man.

ZELLERBY Yes, yes it would have been bad. Bad for the man whose head I beat in. But I did not have that strength back then. You all do. And the rest of the world will not allow you to use that power.

BOY 18 We shall see about that.

MICHAELA Not if you convince them.

ZELLERBY Michaela.

MICHAELA Not if you convince them otherwise.

GIRL 18 To do what?

MICHAELA To convince them you will be old enough to understand, some day. You are not wilful, you are not wicked. You are just children. You were frightened.

BOY 18 But we’re not frightened.

 ZELLERBY Are you sure about that?

GIRL 18 Yes.

 BOY 18 We are quite sure.

 ZELLERBY I am trying to help you here.

 GIRL 18 You should help your daughter.

 MICHAELA I do not need help.

 BOY 18 He still thinks that you do, Michaela.

 GIRL 18 And he believes it is more help than he can give you.

MICHAELA I know that already.

ZELLERBY They are trying to divide us Michaela, they want to instil fear in us, fear of me, fear of you. Do not let them

MICHAELA You’re the one who made feel this way Dad, not them.

GIRL 18 We just want you to leave us alone, Professor.

BOY 18 Sooner or later, your kind is going to try and kill us.

GIRL 18 No matter what we say, or how sorry we are, you will want to wipe us out.

BOY 18 So, we should wipe you out first!

ZELLERBY Wanting to kill you seems to me a very large assumption. Naturally, if you go on doing the kind of things you have been doing lately, we shall hate you, and we shall take revenge – or perhaps one should say, we shall have to protect ourselves from you. But if you don't, well, we can see. Do you have such a great hatred of us? If you don't, then surely some kind of modus vivendi can be managed...?'

 GIRL 18 It is not about us hating or liking you, Professor.

BOY 18 It makes no difference. It never did. Nor is wasting time trying to debate it.

GIRL 18 Your people are going to kill us.

BOY 18 They cannot afford not to.

GIRL 18 And we cannot afford to let you.

MICHAELA Stop saying that ‘*you’*, we are not a part of it.

BOY 18 What do you think your leaders are doing right now?

GIRL 18 They are asking themselves if they can get away with what the Russians did. Aren’t they? Admit it.

ZELLERBY Maybe.

BOY 18 You cannot bring yourself to say yes.

ZELLERBY Alright then, yes. But it has not come to that, not yet.

BOY 18 It already has, hasn’t it?

GIRL 18 What time are Westcott ‘s men coming?

BOY 18 Why do you think those children in Russia were killed?

ZELLERBY Because it has begun. Whatever it is you are planning. It has started.

BOY 18 The Russians stopped them. Just like the Inuit stopped them. Just like you and your friends are going to try and stop us.

GIRL 18 We wonder how they are going to do it? Blow us all up like the Russians, or something else, a car crash, something like that?

BOY 18 It wouldn’t be too hard, you have done a good job at keeping the truth about us all hidden.

GIRL 18 But you cannot keep the crash quiet.

BOY 18 You cannot keep what happened with Neil quiet

GIRL 18 It’s bound to be all over Midwich by now.

BOY 18 Facebook. Twitter. Instagram.

GIRL 18 Never mind all of the rumours they have been saying about us already, over the years.

BOY 18 The Midwich Cuckoos!

GIRL 18 When Westcott’s men come to take us away, how will you explain that?

BOY 18 No one is going to believe we just went away!

GIRL What do you think they will do to us Professor?

ZELLERBY I do not have an answer for that.

GIRL 18 Of course you don’t.

ZELLERBY I was never a part of that.

MICHAELA That? Dad what do you mean that? So, there is something?

ZELLERBY Michaela. My job was to watch over them, that is all.

MICHAELA But you said *that.* There is something. You knew there was something, dad? Didn’t you? Didn’t you?

GIRL 18 Answer your daughter, Professor.

BOY 18 Tell her the truth, for once.

 ZELLERBY Yes, yes I knew, there was something.

MICHAELA I knew it!

GIRL 18 *Is something!*  You know, if we continue to exist, we shall dominate you.

BOY 18 Or do you really believe they will agree to be superseded, and start on the way to extinction without a struggle?

ZELLERBY No. Of course not.

GIRL 18 And do you think I do not know that any state, however tolerant, cannot afford to harbour an increasingly powerful minority which it has no power to control?

ZELLERBY Again no. But I have a question, what will you do?

BOY 18 You know what we will do. But we have shown last night what is going to happen to soldiers if they are sent against us.

GIRL 18 We are all toys of a force called life. It made you numerically strong, but mentally undeveloped; it made us mentally strong, but physically weak: now it has set us at one another, to see what will happen. A cruel sport, perhaps, from both our points of view, but a very, very old one. Cruelty is as old as life itself, Professor.

ZELLERBY Listen to yourselves, how grown up you all are. Your advanced maturity is really quite remarkable. What things you could do, what a difference you could all make. Please, I urge you, whatever it is you are thinking, planning even, don’t do it.

BOY 18 (SENSES) There are guards coming. Outside.

MICHAELA Is it Westcott’s men?

BOY 18 They have arrived. They have guns.

ZELLERBY Yes, they are here for your protection.

GIRL 18 Our protection?

 ZELLERBY Yes.

BOY 18 You are lying.

ZELLERBY I am not.

GIRL 18 Protection from us, Professor?

ZELLERBY Protection for you, from the town. So you see, we are not all bad. Please, please tell me that you see.

BOY 18 It is too late.

 ZELLERBY Listen to me. They are here for your protection, you must believe that. But they will cut you to ribbons if you attack them.

GIRL 18 We will not attack them, Professor.

BOY 18 They will attack each other.

ZELLERBY No. Don’t do this. Do not do this.

MICHAELA No. Don’t do this.

GIRL 18 Sorry Professor.

 BOY 18 But is too late.

 ZELLERBY No!

GIRL 18 Take your guns!!!

BOY 18 Take your rifles.

 MICHAELA Dad?

 ZELLERBY Michaela, come here. *(SIGNS) Come here Michaela*.

 MICHAELA *(SIGNS)* What are they doing?

 ZELLERBY (SIGNS) It will be alright.

 GIRL 18 Put your guns, put your rifles, into your mouths.

 ZELLERBY God help us.

MICHAELA No, you can’t do that.

BOY 18 FIRE!

GIRL 18 FIRE!

**FX MULTIPLE GUNSHOTS.**

 **SCENE SIX. YEAR: 2018. ZELLERBY ON THE PHONE WITH JANET.**

 JANET All of them?

ZELLERBY Janet? Janet I am so sorry. It was like what they did with Neil. They had absolute control of all of them. I have never seen anything like it, Janet. The power they had.

 JANET Are you praising these little bastards, Gordon?

ZELLERBY Janet, please?

 JANET Well are you?

ZELLERBY I think you know me better than that.

 JANET That is not an answer to my question, now is it?

ZELLERBY No, I am not, People are dead, they almost killed me. I could never.

JANET 8 of my men are dead.

ZELLERBY I know that, and I am sorry.

JANET And yet you still have the presence of mind to be in awe of them.

ZELLERBY Not awe. It is not awe. I swear to you.

 JANEY Then what is it? Because I don’t understand what is going on here, I don’t understand anything any more

 ZELLERBY I know they are dangerous, I realize it now. But they could have done so much. So much for good, you know.

JANET No I do not know. Do you have any idea what is going to happen next?

 ZELLERBY I can hazard a guess

JANET They have to be stopped.

ZELLERBY I know that

 JANET They will be stopped.

ZELLERBY I know that too. And so do they.

JANET One way or the other, Gordon.

 ZELLERBY Who are you trying to kid Janet, there is only one way. What have your bosses decided? I know they have decided on something, so you may as well tell me.

JANET So you can tell them?

ZELLERBY What?

JANET Warn them perhaps?

ZELLERBY For God’s sake, no! Come on Janet, do you really think that I am compromised?

JANET Are you?

ZELLERBY They have gone too far, this has gone too far. I realize that, but….

JANET But what? What more nonsense are you coming out with now, Gordon?

ZELLERBY They are still children Janet. They are just different. Must we always fear what is different?

JANET Are we talking about the children or yourself?

 ZELLERBY You know me so well. Nobody knows me as well as you, not even Anthea.

 JANET Is this a proposal, Gordon?

ZELLERBY Maybe.

JANET Well, you are 30 years too late my friend.

ZELLERBY Oh? So, I did have a chance then?

JANET Not even remotely.

ZELLERBY Well you never did it for me either Janet, so rest easy.

JANET So, now that is settled, what next?

ZELLERBY You tell me, Colonel?

 JANET We are going to need your help with this one, Gordon.

ZELLERBY What kind of help?

JANET I think you know what kind. Plan A, is no longer viable.

ZELLERBY I see.

JANET They cannot know we are coming.

ZELLERBY I realize that.

JANET Can you help? Will you help?

ZELLERBY Their telepathic abilities have grown stronger.

JANET Evidently. But can they stop us?

ZELLERBY I do not believe so. So far their powers only work within a certain range. So, whatever you have needs to be quick, as well as precise.

JANET Are you saying they could stop it?

ZELLERBY If they become aware of it, yes, it’s possible they may be able to stop it in time.

JANET Then they will need to be distracted.

ZELLERBY Yes.

JANET For as long as possible.

ZELLRBY You think of everything, don’t you Janet? Is this where I come in? Is this where I will be of help?

JANET You can say no, of course. Just sat it my friend, we’ll think of something else.

ZELLERBY But there is not anything else is there Janet?

JANET No.

ZELLERBY Those children are in the midst of planning something. There is no time.

JANET No.

ZELLERBY And you know the answer already. You know it has to be me, for this to stand any chance of working. or you would never have asked me, right?

JANET Yes. Thank you. You have been a good friend, Gordon.

ZELLERBY Likewise Janet.

 **SCENE SEVEN.**

**YEAR: 2018. MOLLY FACES ONE OF THE CHILDREN, HER DAUGHTER , ON HER FRONT DOORSTEP.**

MOLLY Why are you here? What do you want?

GIRL 18 To see you, Mum

MOLLY Do not call me that. Don’t you ever call me that. I am not your mother.

GIRL 18 Then what are you?

MOLLY Nothing, to you I am nothing I am a nobody. Do you understand me?

GIRL 18 I think I do.

MOLLY You think? You were always so sure, about everything.

GIRL 18 Did that scare you?

MOLLY You scared me.

GIRL 18 That was not our intention.

MOLLY Then what was it? What is your intention?

GIRL 18 The same as yours, Mum.

MOLLY I said don’t call me that.

GIRL 18 To live.

MOLLY And that’s it?

GIRL 18 Yes. Is that not yours?

MOLLY You know that is the first time you have looked at me, like you honestly do not know.

GIRL 18 That is because I do not know.

MOLLY So, you lot are not all the same.

GIRL 18 Evidently not. You truly are an interesting species, flawed, but interesting.

MOLLY That did not give you the right to attack us the way you did.

GIRL 18 Attack?

MOLLY Yes attack! What you did.

GIRL 18 We did not attack you all.

MOLLY Yes you did, you attacked us, you attacked me. You violated me, you made me give birth to you. What is that, if we are not attacked?

GIRL 18 It was the way we chose.

MOLLY Find another way. Or even better, just ask.

GIRL 18 You would have said no.

MOLLY Too right we would have said no.

GIRL 18 Well there you have it.

MOLLY No, that is not where we have it. Nowhere near, alright?

GIRL 18 You do not hate us because we are different.

MOLLY I hate you because of what was done to me.

GIRL 18 I am sorry.

MOLLY You are sorry?

GIRL 18 Yes.

MOLLY You are not like the others.

GIRL 18 I should not even be here

MOLLY Then why are you here?

GIRL 18 I cannot explain, yet I have a need to understand.

MOLLY Careful love, you are beginning to sound human.

GIRL 18 Love?

MOLLY You should go.

GIRL 18 No, please.

MOLLY Don’t come back here, ever!

GIRL 18 I came here to say goodbye, Mum

MOLLY Goodbye?

GIRL 18 We are leaving.

MOLLY You could have just gone.

GIRL 18 Yes, I could have.

MOLLY But you didn’t. You’re just standing here, outside my front door, like butter wouldn’t melt, staring at me with those eyes.

GIRL 18 Mother?

MOLLY Stop it, stop staring at me. What are you?

GIRL 18 Your daughter.

MOLLY Where did you come from?

GIRL 18 I came from you, Mother.

MOLLY No, where did you come from really?

GIRL 18 I am not sure you would understand. I am not sure I do.

ANGEL That does not like sound like you,

GIRL 18 We were given these feelings, these emotions, these thoughts, this appearance, because they believed it was necessary.

MOLLY Oh yeah, who is they?

GIRL 18 They were deemed important to have, but what is the point, if we cannot act on them? I am different, yet I cannot show it.

MOLLY What is the matter with you? Are you alright?

GIRL 18 I must go. Goodbye Mum.

 **SCENE EIGHT.**

**YEAR: 2018.**

**ZELLERBY SPEAKING INTO HIS RECODER.**

ZELLERBY Well Anthea, there’s really not much more that I can tell you, except you were right. You told me once, nothing I ever did was good enough for me. You and Michaela should have been enough, you were right. Everything else, my career, the children, nothing more than an added bonus, a distant second. I really thought those children were the most remarkable things I had ever seen. Even over Michaela when she was born. A shameful way for a father to think. I need to admit that to myself now. Why, I needed to explain why I must now do this. I ask you to explain this all to Michaela someday. I have tried to do it myself but it is just impossible, with all of this happening around us right now. Tell her she was never second, not for a minute, not in my heart, not where it really counts.

 **DOOR KNOCKS**

ZELLERBY That will be her no doubt. Telling me she won’t go back to London. You must explain, that I always loved her. That I always loved you both. Thank you Anthea, thank you for listening to me. I hope Janet or somebody will get this recording to you. Goodbye.

 **ZELLERBY TURNS OFF THE RECORDER. DOOR CONTINUES TO KNOCK.**

MICHAELA (CALLS) Dad? Come out of there.

 **ZELLERBY OPENS THE DOOR.**

ZELLERBY My goodness Michaela, what are you trying to do, smash down the entire door?

MICHAELA I will go back to London. But only if you come with me.

ZELLERBY I can’t do that.

MICHAELA Let Westcott deal with them.

ZELLERBY Don’t say that.

MICHAELA Let her drop a bomb on them or something.

ZELLERBY Michaela?

MICHAELA She’s in the army, she is used to dropping bombs on people. She doesn’t need you.

ZELLERBY Michaela, I can’t. I’m sorry.

MICHAELA I am not leaving you alone with them.

ZELLERBY Your ticket all is paid for.

 MICHAELA Dad?

 ZELLERBY Just pick it up at the station.

 MICHAELA Dad?

 ZELLERBY You will need to my credit card

 MICHAELA I am standing right in front of you, Dad.

 ZELLERBY PIN number is your birthday, 1511.

 MICHAELA Dad!

 ZELLERBY Please Michaela. Go to your mother’s please, where you will be safe.

 MICHAELA Safe?

 ZELLERBY If things go wrong. They can’t use you to hurt me.

 MICHAELA What’s going to go wrong?

 ZELLERBY Nothing, I hope.

 MICHAELA Dad please?

 ZELLERBY Oh God do you know what I have been doing in here? Speaking with your mother.

MICHAELA With Mum?

ZELLBERBY Telling her things that I just cannot tell you.

MICHAELA Why don’t you just try for once?

ZELLERBY Try? For once? (DEEP BREATH. HE SIGNS THE FOLLOWING…..)

 ALWAYS PROUD YOU. YOU DEAF POO PROBLEM

 ME THE PROBLEM NOT YOU

 YOU BORN. I LOOK AT YOU. YOU LOOKED IN MY EYES. SAYING IT SIMPLE DAD. LOVE ME THATS ALL. LOVE ME. DOCTORS SAY YOU DEAF. YOU LOOK AT ME SAYING LOVE ME DAD.

 I CHOSE TO WORRY LIFE BE DIFFICULT FOR YOU

BUT YOU STRONG. YOU NOT SCARED. YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF. I BELIEVE IN YOU. PLEASE REMEMBER I LOVE YOU.

MICHAELA; Yeah*.*

 ZELLERBY Is that it? Is that all I get, just a yeah?

MICHAELA Dad. Your signing is pretty good you know!!

ZELLERBY It’s alright. I am only teasing. These things are hard to say. I am glad it isn’t just me.

MICHAELA It isn’t.

ZELLERBY Thank you. A compliment indeed. I need you to go my darling. I need you to trust me. Right now.

**SCENE NINE.**

**YEAR: 2018. ZELLERBY IS ADDRESSING THE CHILFREN IN HIS STUDY.**

BOY 18 You know, Professor?

ZELLERBY Know what?

GIRL 18 If all humans did not suffer so much from feelings, you could be as powerful as we are.

ZELLERBY You are probably right.

BOY 18 You could never reach our minds.

 ZELLERBY You are sure that we want to.

 GIRL 18 Of course. That is why you fear us, hate us. You want what we have, yet you are incapable of having it. It is time for us to leave.

ZELLERBY Leave? Where will you go?

BOY 18 To find the rest of us. To come together at last.

 ZELLERBY And do what?

 GIRL 18 To live, Professor.

 ZELLERBY I see.

BOY 18 Do you?

 GIRL 18 Do you Professor?

 ZELLERBY Yes, of course, hard not to.

 BOY 18 Are you alright, Professor?

ZELLERBY I am fine.

 GIRL 18 Something is wrong.

ZELLERBY Nothing is wrong, I agree, you should leave. You should leave before they have a chance to take you. In fact, I am so glad that you are leaving. I hope that whatever it is that you are looking for, you will find.

BOY 18 No, there is something else.

ZELLERBY No.

BOY 18 There is.

GIRL 18 I sense it too.

ZELLERBY There is nothing,

GIRL 18 You are hiding something Professor.

BOY 18 You are hiding your true emotions.

ZELLERBY I am not.

BOY 18 What is this?

GIRL 18 We will have to find out.

ZELLERBY No, you won’t.

BOY 18 But we will, Professor.

GIRL 18 In time.

ZELLERBY My dear child, time is something you do not have.

BOY 18 What do you mean?

ZELLERBY I mean your time is up.

GIRL 18 What have you done, Professor?

ZELLERBNY It’s over.

GIRL 18 Professor?

 BOY 18 You will tell us.

 GIRL 18 Tell us now.

ZELLERBY (RESISISTING) No, No!

 GIRL 18 You will tell us.

ZELLERBY Please?

 BOY 18 A drone?

 GIRL 18 They are sending a drone? It is in flight.

 BOY 18 Professor? We want the truth.

 ZELLERBY Yes, yes! A drone is coming. Only I can abort.

 GIRL 18 Then abort.

 ZELLERBY You will do us no harm?

 BOY 18 Abort Professor.

 ZELLERBY Tell me, you will do us no harm, then I will.

GIRL 18 It is in your interest to hurt what is different.

 ZELLERBY That is not an answer.

BOY 18 It is the only answer you will get.

 ZELLERBY They mean to kill you. You do understand that.

 GIRL 18 Yes.

 ZELLERBY So give me a reason to stop this. All I have to is call them, give them the code name, and they will recall the drone. So, just stop this.

 BOY 18 You stop this

GIRL 18 Have belief in yourself for once.

BOY 18 Must you do what they do, Professor?

 ZELLERBY No.

GIRL 18 Then find another way.

 BOY 18 Teach us another way.

 ZELLERBY It won’t work.

 GIRL 18 Because you will not let it.

 ZELLERBY They will not.

BOY 18 But you are not they. They are different, you are different.

ZELLERBY And what of you? What belief do you have in yourselves? You, yes you! I recognise you, you are Molly’s daughter. You are the one who questioned the others before why did you do that? Why?

GIRL 18 We were merely trying to understand you.

ZELLERBY No, no you weren’t, and don’t say we! I saw that look in your eyes, you were asking for yourself, not for the others but for yourself. You stood out from the others, you thought like an individual. Didn’t you? Didn’t you? Answer me!

BOY 18 This will not work, Professor.

ZELLERY It already has. How did it feel to think for yourself to act on your own will? Please just tell me, give me some hope.

GIRL 18 There is no hope.

ZELLERBY Tel me anyway, just tell me.

BOY 18 It was confusing.

ZELLERBY And?

GIRL 18 I found it confusing.

ZELLERBY That is all you have to say?

BOY 18 That is all I wish to say.

ZELLERBY You know, my mother had an old saying, if happens once, it can happen again. I refuse to believe you are the only one thinking like this,

GIRL 18 You are correct Professor.

BOY 18 We are all one mind.

ZELLERBY No, that is not what I meant. I know, what it is like more than anyone to be different, especially here, in Midwich. But it is alright, you can get through it. The ones who are different are the ones who change the world.

GIRL 18 We are changing the world, professor,

ZELLERBY You are not.

BOY 18 You risk your life to claim individuality, and yet your species live to control each other?

ZELLERBY We feared you might sense what we were planning. That you might stop us. It was my job to distract you for as long as possible.

GIRL 18 First it was your job to watch us, now it is to kill us.

ZELLERBY I do not wish this. You think I want to die?

 GIRL 18 Then stop this. Stop it now.

BOY 18 You must choose, Professor.

ZELLERBY I choose to stop. I choose to stop you.

GIRL 18 You cannot.

BOY 18 We do not allow it.

ZELLERBY Then try.

GIRL 18 You will contact Colonel Westcott.

ZELLERBY (RESISTS) I…I….

BOY 18 You will contact Westcott now.

ZELLERBY No!

GIRL 18 You will tell her to abort.

BOY 18 Abort the drone, Professor.

ZELLERBY It’s too late.

GIRL 18 Abort the drone!

ZELLERBY No.

BOY 18 You will do as we say!

ZELLERBY You are too late.

GIRL 18 Call the Colonel.

ZELLERBY It is already here, it is on its way.

BOY 18 He speaks the truth.

GIRL 18 Silence!

BOY 18 We have failed. These humans are complicated.

GIRL 18 That is their strength, As well as their weakness.

GIRL 18 Do you hear us Professor? Do you believe that we have failed?

ZELLERBY (PANTING) Michaela….

**FX DRONE HITS THE HOUSE, LOUD EXPLOSION.**

**FADE**

**SCENE NINE A.**

MOLLY (APPROACHING) Michaela, where are you going? What’s happening?

MICHAELA Molly, we’ve got to get away from here.

MOLLY Are the children inside? Are they ok? My girl is in there.

MICHAELA She is with my dad.

MOLLY I gave her to your dad because I couldn’t love her. I didn’t want to and she didn’t want me to but I need her to be safe.

MICHAELA They have a plan, we have got to get away from here.

MOLLY What plan? What do you mean? I did not give birth to her so she could be harmed. Molly, want is happening please?

MICHAELA Just get away from here, please.

MOLLY I’m her mum. I need her to be safe.

**SCENE TEN. Year 2018**

MICHAELA I got as far as the train station, when suddenly there was a bright flash, like lightning, and a sharp tremor that shook the entire station. It almost carried me off my feet. The noise came too, in a great, turbulent, shattering breaker of sound, while it felt all of Midwich seemed to rock about us. The overwhelming crash was followed by a clatter and tinkle of things falling from the sky, and then by an utter silence. I suppose we have lived so long in a garden that we have all but forgotten the commonplaces of survival. If you want to keep alive in the jungle, you must live as the jungle does...' (quotes) In Oppley they’re smart. And in Stouch, they’re smarmy, but Midwich folk, are just plain barmy.

**FADE**