

2024

Merger

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Online Edition

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Breaking news! Just in Aliens have contacted all the leaders in world. Every president, prime minister, leader in government was invited to a first contact meeting, or at least that's the spin off that is circulating the news.

It has been going on for weeks. First, they met in each of the world leader's offices then they were all invited to the mother ship. There were a few countries that were apprehensive about that venture but almost every single one of them went. They weighed the pros and cons and at the end of the day no one wanted to miss out on that invitation. Of the 195 countries 150 world leaders went. The rest were plotting their defense which was fruitless because we were outnumbered and out gunned.

Every news station was broadcasting the event. A few of them speculate all the possible outcomes. They wouldn't have invited all the world leaders if they were going to kill us, some were saying. They have the means to just out right kill us.

Looking up from my computer I see there is more breaking news, with the first contact merger. Apparently, the aliens have negotiated sharing of technology for seeds and a few species. Jokes ensue about Earth's dowery of chickens, and strawberry seeds in our new marriage of intergalactic relations.

My phone rang. Picking it up, "Hello?"

“Darren, listen very carefully to what I am about to tell you.”

“Marcie?” my wife who I have seen very little since this all unfolded since she was a secretary for our esteem leader.

“Darren,” she clipped. “This is going to go south. I need you to go directly home, pack all the food, clothes, and toys for the kids. Pick up the kids at school, just tell them they have a dentist appointment I forgot about, then head to my parent’s cabin. Only stop for extra supplies, nothing else. I need you to do this right now.”

“Marcie I’m at work. I can’t leave now.”

“Darren,” she growled, sighing heavily. “Darren, I said get off your ass now, drop everything you’re doing and just for once do as I ask you to. I need you to get out of this city within the hour. Do you hear me?”

“What’s happening in an hour?”

“Damn it Darren, you are not hearing me.” She cleared her throat, covered the phone and was talking to someone else. Then returned to me. “Darren, you have less than an hour to get home, do as I ask and get the kids. Please.”

“Marcie, what’s going on?”

“I can’t tell you over the phone. Just leave right now. Drop everything you’re doing and leave right now. I’ll meet you up at the cabin. GO!” She hung up. Looking at the tv, nothing was being reported that there was any danger. Turning off my computer, I packed up my things and headed out. In the lobby Sara asked me where I was going. I told her I had

a family emergency. She said she would let our boss know and hoped everything would be alright. I was already on the elevator with the doors closing.

I headed for the car and went home it took me fifteen minutes. I went through the house and grabbed things that Marcie had said to grab and stuffed them in the trunk. Food, clothing, toys, the dog. I locked everything up and was in the car and stopped at the store, again getting more food, water and treats. The trunk was completely stuffed as I stopped at the school and was picking up my two kids.

I was about an hour and half since I was on the phone with Marcie and we were heading out of town, I had the radio on and that's when it hit. The merger wasn't going so well. There seemed to be some kind of misunderstanding. When our new friends said they wanted a sample species they were also referring to humans! No that can't be right. Our leaders were not taking this new request so well. Some of them were saying take our lower class, and others were taking the stance of our people are not for trade.

Radio stations were going offline. They were outside the city limits and heading north as Marcie told him. It would be about a two-hour drive. The kids were in the back seat listening to their devices with headphones, one was listening to music the other a movie. They weren't really aware of what was going on. Traffic was beginning to fill up the highway. Passing an accident, I didn't slow down nor offer any help. Normally I would have but not this time. The radio had a loud beeping noise then the emergency broadcast came on, warning people to go home and stay in their houses. Not to leave.

I just kept driving. The traffic started to thin out the further north I went. We arrived a couple hours later, and I got the kids inside then unpacked. I fed the kids and put them to bed, then tried the internet. It was down. Standing outside on the porch, I felt a cool breeze fighting its way through the trees. The moon was out. It looked like it was almost full. The place was picturesque, like something you would find on a card.

This morning, I was sitting in my office, and everything was fine. Tonight I was at my in-law's cabin deep in the woods. Hiding from what? Aliens? It seemed absurd. Yet here I was. I had found the old crank radio and got it working. Pouring myself a glass of whiskey thanks to Marcie's dad, I sat and listened. There were threats of nuclear weapons, shit was going south. I wondered if I would ever see my wife again.

An hour later I heard a car pull up, Marcie's younger siblings were in the front seats, Jake and Lisa. Their parents and Marcie got out of the back. She was a sight for sore eyes. I ran down the steps and hugged my wife. At least we had the family here. Marcie would know what to do. This was really happening. Alien invasion, what happened to the alien merger?