

TEASER

Fade In:

EXT. SCHOOL / FRONT DRIVE -- DAY

Outside the school, several STUDENTS load suitcases into their PARENTS' cars. More STUDENTS come out of the school, bags packed.

JOSIE, LUCAS, MARSHALL, and CORRINE come out of the front door. Marshall's got a backpack with him. Corrine and Josie have suitcases. Lucas's hands are empty.

CORRINE

I can't believe you're going to be stuck here over the long weekend, Lucas. I'm sorry.

LUCAS

I won't be alone. Z will be here.

Lucas turns to Josie.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Though if any of you wanted to stay and hang out, that'd be...you know...good too.

JOSIE

Sorry, Lucas, but I haven't seen my mom in a while. I can't.

MARSHALL

Is your father sure he can't get off work? You two were planning this fishing trip for months.

CORRINE

That so doesn't sound like him...to cancel on you at the last minute.

LUCAS

(uncomfortable)

Hey, what can you do? He said it just came up.

Josie looks at Lucas and narrows her eyes. She pulls Lucas aside. Marshall and Corrine listen, from a distance.

JOSIE

You didn't arrange this so you could stay to check out that wild theory of yours about Vaughn, did you?

LUCAS

I overheard Victor saying to "someone" that 'something' important to his plans may be hidden inside the school, possibly in Z's office, and he's checking it out tonight. You simply choose not to believe me.

JOSIE

But Victor took Vaughn fishing this weekend.

LUCAS

Fishing?

JOSIE

I saw them leave an hour ago.

LUCAS

Josie, when was the last time Vaughn's dad took him fishing?

JOSIE

Look, I'm just not ready to go there about Vaughn, alright? And regardless of what you think about him the idea he's somehow working with his father is crazy, even by your standards.

LUCAS

I understand you don't want to believe he is a bad guy, but you're wrong --

JOSIE

Lucas, I told you, I'm going to spend the weekend with my mom. You and your theories are on your own.

A CAR HORN is HEARD. CORRINE'S CAR pulls into the drive. Principal Durst spots the car, checks the license plate.

DURST

Corrine Baxter? Your parents are here!

CORRINE

There's my dad. Come with us, Lucas, my parents won't mind.

JOSIE

Great idea!

LUCAS

I'll be fine. Really.

He shoots a look at Josie, determined to stay.

MARSHALL

Take it easy, Lucas. See you in a few days.

As Corrine, Marshall, and Josie walk towards Corrine's father's car, Lucas's expression changes. Like a man out to prove he's right about something.

LUCAS

"Crazy," am I?

EXT. BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH - TO ESTABLISH (STOCK) -- NIGHT

INT. UPPER HALLWAY -- NIGHT

The school is dark. Deserted. Lucas exits his dorm room, carrying a parabolic microphone and a surveillance camera on a stand.

Using a flashlight, he navigates his way downstairs, making sure he's not being observed.

INT. MAIN HALLWAY -- NIGHT

As he's checking the hallway ahead of him to make sure it's clear, PROFESSOR Z silently appears behind him. Z Holds a bowl of popcorn and carries a stack of books.

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas?

LUCAS

Argghhh!

Lucas spins to look at Z.

PROFESSOR Z

I'm going to the teachers' lounge to kick up my feet, munch some popcorn, and read from "The World Treasury of Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics, Ninth Edition." Care to join me?

LUCAS

Nah, I'll just continue doing...what I'm doing.

Professor Z nods. And then.

PROFESSOR Z  
What exactly are you doing?

LUCAS  
Uh...setting up surveillance to catch Victor and Vaughn sneaking back early from break to search the school.

PROFESSOR Z  
I see.

LUCAS  
Would you mind if I set this camera up in your office?

PROFESSOR Z  
Actually...yes. I'll be in the teacher's lounge if you need me.

Professor Z walks off. Lucas frowns.

INT. PROFESSOR Z'S OFFICE -- NIGHT

Checking to make sure he hasn't been observed, Lucas surreptitiously enters Z's office from the hallway. Starts snooping around looking for a spot to set up the camera and microphone. He nestles the camera into a nook in the wall unit in Z's office, hiding the camera between books.

LUCAS  
Ready for your close up, Vaughn?

Next, Lucas adjusts the parabolic mic. Jars a section of paneling in the wall unit as he does. Examines the paneling more closely. Notices that it slides. Fiddles with it, and then it slides open. Behind the panel is a HIDDEN COMPARTMENT, with a small DEVICE inside.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Woa-hoa, maybe this is what Victor is looking for.

CLOSE ON THE DEVICE

The thing resembles an inkwell -- round on the bottom, narrow at top. Brushed silver, metallic. Definitely high-tech.

Lucas sets it down. There seems to be a button of some kind on top. Lucas touches it. POP! A web of metallic fingers extends out from the device. The device HUMS. And then...WHAPPP! BLACK HOLE ENERGY radiates out in all directions. The VORTEX OPENS in the floor of Z's office. A TREMOR RUMBLES around the room slightly jarring the school.

Freaked out, Lucas backs away from the vortex and races out the door of Z's office door, only...

INT. TEACHERS' LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

...instead of stepping out into the hallway he races into in the teachers' lounge where Z is! Z looks up from his reading.

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas? Are you okay? I felt a tremor.

Lucas seems disoriented, breathing fast. He pokes his head back through the doorway and finds himself looing into...

INT. PROFESSOR Z'S OFFICE -- CONTINUOUS

...Professor Z's office, swirling vortex and all! Lucas pulls back out of Z's office, and he's once more...

INT. TEACHERS' LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

...in the very calm teachers' lounge!

LUCAS

Professor Z? You're office isn't on the other side of this doorway, is it?

PROFESSOR Z

No.

LUCAS

It is now.

Lucas is dead serious.

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. TEACHERS' LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

We PICK UP DIRECTLY where we left off.

PROFESSOR Z

My office is on the other side of  
this doorway?

Lucas is on the other side of the couch, getting Z to his feet.

LUCAS

There was a tremor, and - Your office!  
It moved! It's right outside the  
lounge.

Lucas pulls Z to the door and pushes him out of the teacher's lounge and into...

INT. MAIN HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

...the downstairs hallway.

PROFESSOR Z

It is?

Lucas looks at Z, afraid and follows him out. Reverse to see what they see:

THE SCIENCE ROOM DOOR, as normal. The hallway is quiet.

LUCAS

I'm telling you, it was just out  
here!

PROFESSOR Z

Did you come here from my office,  
Lucas?

LUCAS

No. yes. From just outside it.

Z nods. Steps back into the teachers lounge. Lucas follows.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Professor Z, would I make up a story  
like this?

Z assesses Lucas's physical state. Wide eyed, out of breath.

PROFESSOR Z

It's not uncommon for the body to react to a seismic tremor with a heightened rush of adrenaline. There's nothing to be alarmed about. Getting some sleep would help.

LUCAS

I'm not alarmed about the tremor. I'm alarmed about your office being on the other side of this door!

Professor Z opens the door again and shows Lucas...

...The hall. Professor Z narrows his eyes.

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas, go...to...bed.

A stunned Lucas nods. Turns and heads upstairs.

INT. STAIRCASE / UPPER HALLWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

Mumbling to himself, head down, Lucas comes up the stairs and goes to his room.

LUCAS

I mean...it doesn't make sense. How could it? But, it happened. Unless it didn't. But maybe it did.

Lucas is outside his room. Pauses. Starts feeling better.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(more certain)

Nah...it couldn't have.

Lucas opens the door to his room and enters...

INT. TEACHERS' LOUNGE -- CONTINUOUS

...The Teacher's Lounge again! Z is back on the couch, reading. Looks up.

PROFESSOR Z

Forget something, Lucas?

Lucas is speechless. Springing into action he grabs Z and drags him out of the lounge.

LUCAS

Come on!

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas?!

INT. STAIRCASE / UPPER HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Z runs upstairs with Lucas.

PROFESSOR Z

Would you mind telling me what's  
going on?

LUCAS

Professor Z, you've got to see this.

Lucas throws open the door to his room to find...

INT. LUCAS'S & MARSHALL'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

...His room. Lucas and Z enter. Look around.

PROFESSOR Z

I've seen your room before.  
(and then, like it's  
a big discovery)  
Hey, is that a clean spot?

LUCAS

Something's going on with the  
geography of the school! Rooms aren't  
where they're supposed to be! You've  
gotta believe me!

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas, I want to, I really do. But  
the observable evidence doesn't  
support your theory. Why don't you  
get some sleep and we'll toss around  
some ideas in the morning?

LUCAS

But --

PROFESSOR Z

Lucas. In the morning.

Lucas knows he's not going to change Z's mind.

LUCAS

All right.

PROFESSOR Z

Good night, Lucas.

Z walks out through the door of Lucas's dorm room...



INT. SCHOOL KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

...And arrives in the school kitchen! It takes a moment to register before Z gets it. Curious, Z goes back through the door and is back in...

INT. LUCAS'S & MARSHALL'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

...Lucas's dorm room again.

PROFESSOR Z  
Lucas? The kitchen isn't on the other side of this doorway, is it?

LUCAS  
(worried)  
No.

PROFESSOR Z  
(intrigued)  
It is now.

Lucas and Z step through the doorway, only instead of coming out in the kitchen they now come out in...

INT. SCIENCE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

...The Science Room.

LUCAS  
I thought you said it was the kitchen.

PROFESSOR Z  
It was, just a few seconds ago.

LUCAS  
Do you have any idea what's going on?

Professor Z looks around. Finds a box of styrofoam and cardboard shapes.

PROFESSOR Z  
Well...it appears possible that Blake Holsey High may have become a tesseract.

LUCAS  
A what?

PROFESSOR Z  
A tesseract. A four dimensional cube.

LUCAS

Four dimensions...?

Professor Z pulls out a small cardboard cube from the box.

PROFESSOR Z

How many dimensions in space does  
this cube have?

LUCAS

Three. Length, width, and height.

As he talks, Z pulls magnetic cubes from the box and sticks them together, like an ersatz "Rubics' Cube", to form the starting shape in FIGURE #2 of the APPENDIX.

PROFESSOR Z

Good. A three dimensional cube can be unfolded into two dimensions, which means it's flat. A tesseract - a four dimensional cube - can be unfolded into three dimensions, which would look something like this.

Professor Z holds up the shape he made.

PROFESSOR Z (CONT'D)

Now, imagine this model is the school.  
Top floor...main floor...basement...

Lucas examines it. Professor Z turns to the computer specially set up for this purpose. It shows an animation of FIGURE #1 folding up from flat, to a three dimensional cube.

PROFESSOR Z (CONT'D)

...And just like that can fold up  
into a cube, this...

Z holds up the shape that he made with the magnetic cubes.

PROFESSOR Z (CONT'D)

...Can fold up into a tesseract.  
Something might have happened to  
cause Blake Holsey to start folding  
up. That's why the rooms are moving.

LUCAS

But how can the school "fold up"  
without breaking?

PROFESSOR Z

In three dimensions it can't. But  
mathematically it's a very simple  
matter as the computer model  
demonstrates.

Professor Z brings up an animation of FIGURE #2 folding from a three dimensional cube, into a hypercube.

LUCAS

If you're right, and the school is folding up in four dimensions, what happens to us if we can't stop it?

PROFESSOR Z

Imagine being trapped in a hyperdimensional trash compactor.

LUCAS

(blanching)

That doesn't sound good.

PROFESSOR Z

It doesn't, does it?

LUCAS

How do you think this happened?

PROFESSOR Z

I was hoping you could tell me.

Lucas looks at Z uncomfortably.

EXT. MAIN HALLWAY -- NIGHT

Lucas and Z walk down the hallway to Z's office, in the middle of a conversation. On the way, Professor Z plays with the cube model of the Tesseract, turning it over in his hands as if trying to solve a four dimensional "Rubik's Cube".

PROFESSOR Z

It was hidden in a compartment in the wall behind my desk?

LUCAS

Some kind of weird device. It shot out an energy pulse of some kind and then the vortex opened.

PROFESSOR Z

A pulse, and then the vortex? Interesting.

They get to Z's office door. A TREMOR SHAKES THE SCHOOL, this one more POWERFUL than the teaser.

LUCAS

Aftershock?

PROFESSOR Z

That was no aftershock.

Z opens the door. Steps in side. After a moment.

PROFESSOR Z (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Lucas? Would you mind stepping in  
here a moment?

Curious, Lucas steps through the door and comes out on...

EXT. BACK OF SCHOOL - PATIO -- DAY (CONTINUOUS)

...The back patio of the school -- in broad daylight!

LUCAS  
(amazed)  
How'd we get outside...in the day  
time?

PROFESSOR Z  
I guess this isn't to be totally  
unexpected in a tesseract. The school  
is folding in on itself in three  
dimensional space as well as time.  
At least we're outside.

LUCAS  
But the device is inside. How do we  
get back in to get it?

PROFESSOR Z  
Calculating the four dimensional  
math required to answer that question  
will take some serious computing  
power...and my computer is back inside  
the school.

LUCAS  
Not mine.

Lucas pulls out his cell phone. Starts to dial.

PROFESSOR Z  
Who are you calling?

LUCAS  
Corrine. If there's a problem that  
had to do with hyperdimensional math,  
Corrine's the person to ask.

INT. CORRINE'S HOUSE / KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

The SHOT BEGINS on a ringing cordless telephone in Corrine's  
kitchen. After a moment, Corrine enters, dressed in tennis  
whites. She answers the phone.

CORRINE

Hello?

(out the open door)

I'll be right there mom!

(and then)

Hey Lucas! How's it going?

EXT. BACK OF SCHOOL - PATIO -- CONTINUOUS

Lucas continues on the phone with Corrine.

LUCAS

Interesting. Really, really  
interesting. What do you know about  
tesseract?

Lucas doesn't get his answer. Instead, Z and Lucas hear  
CORRINE SCREAMING from INSIDE the school! Without thinking,  
they race back into the school through the patio door...

INT. MAIN HALLWAY -- NIGHT

...but come out of Durst's office and into the main hallway  
to see Corrine, standing in her tennis whites, and holding  
the handset from her cordless telephone!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. MAIN HALLWAY (DPU) -- NIGHT

Corrine looks at Lucas and Z. Sputters.

CORRINE

What...what happened? How did I get here?

Corrine looks through the door of Durst's Office, become immediately alarmed.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

And why is the back patio inside Principal Durst's Office?!

Suddenly she narrows her eyes and looks at Lucas. Talks to him like he's a naughty boy.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

Lucas? What did you do?

LUCAS

Nothing!

PROFESSOR Z

Well, that may not be one hundred percent accurate.

Lucas and Corrine look at Z.

PROFESSOR Z (CONT'D)

My guess is that when you called Corrine you somehow made a space/time connection with her that sucked her into the tesseract.

CORRINE

Whoa! Hold it! Wait. Blake Holsey High has become a tesseract?

PROFESSOR Z

It appears so...

A TREMOR LARGER STILL SHAKES THE SCHOOL. Z, Lucas and Corrine steady themselves.

CORRINE

What was that?

PROFESSOR Z

They seem to accompany changes in  
the school's dimensional orientation.  
And they've been occurring with  
increasing regularity...

LUCAS

Can you flex your brain's mathematical  
muscle and get us out of this?

CORRINE

Maybe. I need a pen and paper.

Z looks off up the hall and notices the door to the Science  
Room.

PROFESSOR Z

There should be some in the Science  
Room.

Z, Lucas and Corrine open the door to the Science Room and  
enter...

INT. BASEMENT CORRIDOR -- CONTINUOUS

...However the door they open is horizontal - and in the middle  
of a basement wall! WHACK! The door falls open, pulled down  
by gravity. Behind them, still oriented horizontally, is the  
hallway outside the science room!

Z, Lucas and Corrine crawl out on hands and knees and drop to  
the basement floor.

CORRINE

Tell me what just happened?

PROFESSOR Z

The tesseract is folding in on itself.  
In space, and in time.

They walk ahead deeper into the basement.

THEIR POV

The basement wall at the far end of the corridor is starting  
to 'close in' - come towards them.

BACK TO SCENE

Corrine and Lucas look around. Now, the door they came through  
is gone, replaced by a blank wall. No way forward, no way  
back.

LUCAS

This seems bad.

CORRINE

"Seems?"

PROFESSOR Z

Remember my hyperdimensional trash  
compactor analogy?

A TREMOR SHAKES the basement. Plaster dust shakes loose from above.

LUCAS

I missed the part where you told me  
how we escape one.

PROFESSOR Z

Hypothetically, there is no escape.  
(and then)  
Lucky for us, that's only a  
hypothetical.

CORRINE

Not helping, Z.

PROFESSOR Z

For now, I think we should get ready  
to slow the progress of those walls.

The end walls of the basement hallway are getting closer! Z,  
Lucas and Corrine find lengths of pipe.

LUCAS

This is all my fault.  
(looks at Z and Corrine)  
I lied about my father having to  
work this weekend. I canceled on  
him so I could stay behind and check  
out Victor and Vaughn. I'm sorry.

Professor Z looks at Lucas, is about to say something, and  
then Z just...disappears! As he goes, his improvised "Rubics'  
Cube" model falls to the floor.

Corrine picks it up, alarmed.

CORRINE

Where'd Z go?

Lucas looks around, and then up. A stunned look comes to his  
face.

LUCAS

He said the school is folding in on  
itself in time...



Lucas points overhead. On the ceiling above them is the door to Z's office.

CORRINE

The door to Professor Z's office!

LUCAS

Not Z's Office. Professor Middleton's office.

Corrine looks at the stenciling on the door. It now reads "Professor Middleton." And beside the stenciling on the door a poster is tacked up advertising the "Spring Fair".

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Professor Z got the job at Blake Holsey after Professor Middleton vanished, remember? The school is collapsing into itself in history, as well as in space and time.

Lightning flashes. Through the frosted glass window of Middleton's office (up in the basement ceiling!) can be seen someone moving around.

ANGLE ON THE POSTER

With the date, April 1st, 2001.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

See that calendar? April 1st, the date Middleton disappeared.

A MASSIVE TREMOR SHAKES the hallway. Lucas and Corrine are buffeted. The walls around them close in even further!

LUCAS (CONT'D)

(looking up)  
Middleton may be our only hope.  
(and then)  
I've got to get in there somehow.

Corrine looks around.

Works the numbers in her head, eyes closed. Lucas watches the walls get closer.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Uh...Corrine?

CORRINE

(concentrating)  
Shhhh. I'm number crunching.

After a moment, Corrine opens her eyes. She scrutinizes Z's improvised "Rubic's Cube". Then she indicates an AIR VENT in the wall.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

Okay...based on Professor Z's tracking of which rooms in the school connected to which other rooms in the school once Blake Holsey started folding in on itself, I calculate that there is an 80% chance that, that air vent will connect to Professor Middleton's office the next time the tesseract folds in on itself.

Lucas pries the vent open.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

Are you sure we should do this?

LUCAS

What choice do we have?

CORRINE

I mean, there's also the mathematical possibility that this air duct now connects to a different galaxy, millions of light years from here.

LUCAS

Then you should stay. I got us into this. Wish me, luck.

Lucas looks at the vent, now afraid. Corrine braces the vent open as Lucas crawls inside...

...Then Corrine braces another length of pipe across the inexorably closing-in walls. The pipe bends...will it hold? Off her growing alarm...

INT. Z'S OFFICE (MIDDLETON'S OFFICE) -- NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Lucas drops THROUGH FROM, as if he's fallen out of an air vent in the ceiling of Middleton's office. It worked!

Middleton spins around from where he is HIDING THE STRANGE DEVICE IN THE HIDDEN COMPARTMENT behind the wall unit! He looks frazzled. Wild hair. Very intense.

MIDDLETON

(startled)

Lucas! What are you doing in here? Did you come to drop off your science paper? And with two minutes to spare.

LUCAS

Paper? What? No! Professor  
Middleton, I'm in trouble.

MIDDLETON

(distracted)  
What kind of trouble?

LUCAS

Hypothetically, if someone was caught  
in a collapsing tesseract, would  
there be a way out?

Middleton pauses. Looks like he totally gets what Lucas is  
talking to him about.

MIDDLETON

Did you say "tesseract"? Fascinating.  
I understand, now.

Middleton throws a look to the office door, as if expecting  
someone to enter at any moment.

LUCAS

(confused)  
Professor?

Middleton makes his way towards the wall unit. A TREMOR shakes  
the building, they both hold on until it passes.

MIDDLETON

You're in luck my boy! As it turns  
out, I've devoted a large portion of  
my life to the study of tesseracts.  
(it occurs to him)  
Perhaps I was preparing for this.

LUCAS

But is there a way out?

MIDDLETON

No. But, hypothetically, if someone  
was in a folding tesseract, a pulse  
of electro-magnetic energy coupled  
with a surge of hyperdimensional  
energy might unfold it again.

Lucas looks over at the paneling behind the wall unit where  
Middleton was hiding the device.

LUCAS

(cagey)  
You...uh...wouldn't happen to know  
where I might find a device to put  
out this electro-magnetic pulse?

The midnight chime of the school starts to RING. Suddenly, there is a KNOCK on the door. Flustered, Middleton goes to the office door and pokes his head out.

MIDDLETON

What!?

Even though he doesn't HEAR the conversation, though the crack of the door Lucas sees Middleton TALKING TO ANOTHER LUCAS (this is the moment from the very start of the series!)

LUCAS

(to himself)

That's me...dropping off the science paper to Middleton the night he disappeared.

Middleton closes the door, smiles at Lucas.

MIDDLETON

Two of you? My theory is right.

Goes to the secret panel behind the desk.

LUCAS

Theory? What theory?

MIDDLETON

I'd love to chat, but I think it's time to go.

(significantly)

They may be coming for me at any moment.

LUCAS

They?

Middleton just smiles enigmatically.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

You're going to open the vortex, aren't you?

MIDDLETON

You know about that, huh?

Middleton takes out the device.

MIDDLETON (CONT'D)

A final word of advice. You and your friends must be careful, Lucas.

LUCAS

Of Victor...?

Middleton smiles cryptically, seemingly encouraging Lucas.

MIDDLETON

Not just Victor. Remember, Lucas my  
boy, the apple never falls far from  
the tree.

He presses the button on top. It starts to HUM.

MIDDLETON (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Lucas. Until we meet again.

Like at the start of the episode, the fingers extend, and a pulse of energy is emitted, from the device. As before, the vortex opens. Lucas keeps his distance from the swirling hole in the floor. This time WE PUSH IN ON LUCAS, GO RIGHT UP TO HIS eye ball and then ZOOM right into his pupil, and suddenly, in a proverbial eye-blink, Lucas's entire day REWINDS (we'll rewind the episode) at super vortex-speed!

EXT. SCHOOL / FRONT DRIVE -- DAY

UNTIL WE PULL BACK OUT OF LUCAS'S EYE, to discover Lucas  
STANDING AT THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL!

LUCAS

AHHHHHHHHH!

Lucas finds himself with his friends just like he was at the start of the episode.

JOSIE

Lucas?! What's with the screaming?

LUCAS

(looks around)  
Corrine?!

CORRINE

Yes, Lucas?

LUCAS

You're alright?!

CORRINE

(truly not getting it)  
Fine.

LUCAS

Yessss!

CORRINE

Are you okay? You look like you  
just saw a ghost.

LUCAS

A ghost. No, I'm fine. Really good, now.

JOSIE

So you never answered my question.

LUCAS

Which one?

JOSIE

Did you arrange to be left behind this weekend so you could check out that wild conspiracy theory of yours?

LUCAS

Wild theory? Really, well right now, in Z's office...

A CAR HORN is HEARD. CORRINE'S FATHER pulls up to the drive. Principal Durst calls out the arrival.

DURST

Corrine Baxter. Your parents!

CORRINE

There's my dad.

MARSHALL

And our ride.

CORRINE

Come with us, Lucas, my parents won't mind.

JOSIE

Great idea!

LUCAS

No...I'm...I'll be fine, now.

MARSHALL

Well, take it easy, Lucas. See you in a couple of days.

As Corrine, Marshall, and Josie walk towards Corrine's father's car, Lucas's expression changes.

LUCAS

Wait a second...Corrine, do you think your dad has room for one more?

(smiling)

I think I'm going to talk my dad into changing his plans!

CORRINE

That's great, Lucas.

Lucas turns to Josie.

LUCAS

But first...there's something I want  
to show you guys.

Josie, Corrine and Marshall all share a look...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

Fade In:

INT. Z'S OFFICE -- DAY

The kids are all looking on expectantly, as Lucas talks to Z in his office. Some, more skeptical than others.

PROFESSOR Z

(to Lucas)

So, Professor Middleton got his hands on some technology from the future that can control wormhole travel?

LUCAS

Which has the unintended side-effect of folding and unfolding the school like a tesseract.

CORRINE

(amazed)

And you say the three of us were stuck inside it?

PROFESSOR Z

If there's one thing I've learned in my tenure here, nothing's impossible.

LUCAS

Something else. Before he went into the vortex, Middleton warned me about Victor. And Vaughn.

(pointedly)

He said neither of them can be trusted.

JOSIE

(snide)

Funny, Lucas, that's exactly what you've been saying.

MARSHALL

Well there's a simple way to check this out. Right?

Lucas smiles at Josie.

LUCAS

Yes, there is.

PROFESSOR Z

Now, where did you say that hidden compartment is?



Lucas goes to the paneling behind Z's desk. Locates the panel with the hidden compartment behind it, it opens...

MARSHALL

Whoa...

...However, Lucas turns and looks at Josie. Shocked look on his face.

LUCAS

The tesseract device. It's gone.

JOSIE

Did Professor Middleton take it before, or after, he warned you about Vaughn?

Off Lucas, mystified.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BASEMENT -- NIGHT

The CAMERA SWOOPS THROUGH the basement to discover the Janitor at his worktable, an interesting metallic box in front of him. The Janitor presses a button on the metallic box which unfolds into a series of equal-sized cubes (did someone say "tesseract?"). His manner is uncharacteristically grave.

JANITOR

Lucas Randall saw the tesseract device.

The Janitor places the missing tesseract device inside the box which then folds up back into a single cube. He reaches behind himself, opens a "zipper" and passes the box though.

JANITOR (CONT'D)

Please advise.

FADE OUT:

END OF TAG