

' NUMBERS'

Treatment for a Feature Film
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ACT I

KYLIE, RYAN and **GRANT**, three university students, are working intently at their Internet connected computers. Downloading city maps, scanning in parade routes, cross-referencing timetables. A huge economic summit is occurring in their city and these three are designing complicated terrorist attacks. In the background, the television news is showing world leaders arriving in Vancouver for the summit. Protesters swarm around the airport and the limousines, held back by hundreds of security personnel. Meanwhile, their plans play out on their computer screens. Stopping the procession with a toppled tree, flash pots, flares, all hidden, detonated by remote, poison gas attacks, bombings. All viable, all possible. All hypothetical. This is just youthful exuberance and mischievousness at work. They're not going to actually do anything. Or are they?

HAMMOND, an intense, high powered businessman, slams down his phone, furious. Another profitable business has been shut down by environmentalists. His setbacks due to the environment are becoming unacceptable. He informs his shady sidekick, **LEO**, that something will have to be done in retribution. Leo, wisely, agrees.

Kylie is called into a meeting for the environmental group she works for. She quickly gets Ryan and Grant's assurances they will be at the huge protest rally her group is organizing and that nothing they've created will actually happen. Ryan and Grant grudgingly agree.

The university grounds outside the conference center are crowded with students waving placards and police holding them back. As Kylie, Ryan and Grant watch, the world leaders exit the center and drive off. Ryan grins and shows Kylie his stopwatch. It reaches zero. A massive tree topples onto the road, just in front of the first car, exactly as they planned. The motorcade screeches to a halt. Secret Service agents leap out, guns ready. The crowd surges forward, banners waving. Kylie is furious with Ryan for messing up their protest, but Ryan and Grant are totally amused. Until the flares and flash pots go off. Ryan didn't do this. Grant didn't do this. But someone did. The trigger happy security start shooting their guns over the heads of the

protesters. The crowd panics and surges towards the motorcade.

Kylie grabs Ryan and Grant and pulls them back away from the madness. Overhead, police helicopters drop tear gas to disperse the panicking crowd. They hurry right past Leo and TONY. Leo smiles and checks his stopwatch. More flares erupt out of the trees, one shooting thru the open doors of a helicopter hovering overhead. The copter spins and its machine guns decimate the top of the tree.

Hammond grins, watching the live footage of the protest on the evening news. Revenge is sweet and the environmentalists are totally discredited. He quickly downloads the file with their plans into Kylie's work computer, planting evidence of her involvement. He suddenly stops and holds back one file, curious.

Ryan, Kylie and Grant nervously regroup at a coffee bar. Kylie accuses Ryan of staging the attack. Hotly, Ryan accuses her of giving their plans to the radicals in her group. Grant intervenes before they get too out of control. Obviously someone got hold of their hypothetical plans and did them. They agree to keep quiet, destroy all paperwork and delete all files. But who got thru their security? And why? As they leave, Leo is across the street, watching. Hammond tells him to follow Kylie. Leo does. Hammond continues to read the file he held back. He smiles, maliciously, and starts taking notes. The file is for a proposed bomb attack Kylie, Ryan and Grant created.

Next day, DETECTIVE LUKOWITZ finds the incriminating files in Kylie's computer while they search the environmental groups office. He is told Kylie's at the university library. Meanwhile, Kylie is just settling down at a library computer when the police enter, looking for her. Kylie makes an impulse decision to hide. Diving for cover, she quickly hacks past the universities computer security and sends urgent e-mails to Ryan and Grant. "Get out! The police are coming to get us! Meet me at our first date spot!" She signs off and scrambles away to hide in the labyrinthine stacks. But Leo and Tony see her and follow.

Ryan is frantically deleting files when the e-mail arrives. At the same time, the police arrive at his parents front door. Ryan just makes it out his bedroom window with only his laptop computer as the police break into his room.

Grant's roommate answers a knock on their apartment door. As soon as Grant hears it's the police, he dives out his bedroom window, but reaches back for a box of disks. The police see him but Grant just escapes by fleeing across the roof of his building and down a fire escape and into the back of a passing truck.

After a couple narrow escapes within the library stacks, from both the police and from Leo and Tony, Kylie is caught by the university security and locked up in an office to await the police. How can she escape? How can she prove she's innocent? Where are Ryan and Grant? Who's doing this to her?

cut to:

ACT II

The police return to the office where Kylie's locked up. But when they open the door, she's gone. A ceiling tile is broken and she's escaped into the ceiling crawl space. Furious, the police clamber up after her. Once the office is empty, a large filing cabinet drawer opens and Kylie climbs out. She dashes off into the stacks, with only Leo and Tony following her. She is just able to escape them and flee into the labyrinthine campus before Leo and Tony or the police can catch her.

Kylie meets Ryan in the forest. Hyper-paranoid, she accuses him of telling the police. Ryan argues back that she did, but they realize neither of them would have. But turning themselves in wouldn't have helped them. They've got to find out who's framing them. Why are they on the run from the police? How can they prove their innocence now? Where is Grant?

At the back of an empty computer store, Grant waits for Kylie or Ryan to reply to his frantic emails. Hammond, in his office, has copied the emails and anonymously redirected them to the police. With a grin, he returns to feeding his prized tropical fish. Frustrated with waiting, Grant searches thru his disks and finds a curious list of logon's for their latest plans. Dialing the number, he connects with Hammond's computer.

Hammond is still at the fish tank and doesn't notice when his computer logs on. Grant finds out who is watching and framing them before Hammond returns to his desk and severs the connection. Troubled, Hammond calls Leo and sends him to find Grant, now that he has the number of the store where Grant is hiding.

Ryan and Kylie, now with different hair colours, are pacing around a posh hotel room. Ryan, desperate to clear their names, calls his uncle, who might know what to do. His uncle is Hammond. Hammond remains calm and convinces them to stay in hiding. Hanging up, Hammond quickly emails Kylie, pretending to be Grant. Kylie gets the email for an urgent meet at a downtown office building at precisely 3 PM.

Grant is confronted by Leo in the computer store. Recognizing him from the rally, Grant makes a commotion and Leo is stopped by the

security. Grant is just able to get away.

Hammond sends Tony down to the street with a package to wait for Kylie and Ryan. A number of conference delegates will be making their arrivals at the adjacent hotel at exactly at 3 PM. Hammond patiently waits by the window looking down at the street.

As Kylie and Ryan go to leave their stolen hotel room, they step right into waiting hotel security. They're caught! Can they escape in time to meet with Grant?

cut to:

ACT III

As the elevator door opens to the crowded hotel lobby, Kylie screams that the security guards have a bomb! In the sudden confusion, she and Ryan rush into the panicking mob of Japanese tourists and are able to slip out of the hotel.

At precisely 3 PM, the bomb in Tony's package goes off. Poison gas spews out, killing him instantly, and wounding dozens of people on the street. Kylie and Ryan arrive on the scene, too late. Police and fire trucks are everywhere. Hammond, impotently, watches from his office as Kylie and Ryan slip back into the crowd and disappear, sure that Grant tried to kill them.

Grant, now disguised, watches the news in a department store. Every station is blaming them, by name, for all the attacks, including the new gas bombing. They are being painted as rogue environmental terrorists. Pressured by a sales clerk, Grant leaves. All alone, he realizes he's got to find Kylie and Ryan before going to the police. But how? Where are they?

Ryan and Kylie curl up together in a Salvation Army clothes bin for the night. Whatever is going on, they are being watched and being framed. Kylie slips out to find a way of collecting their e-mail. She finds a message from the police telling her to give up and a message from Grant. But maybe it isn't from Grant. How can they know for sure? Cautiously, Kylie confirms a meet with Grant for the next day. Hammond, still working at his desk, is watching, and forwards a copy to the police.

Leo drives up to the security guards alongside the loading dock of a big hotel. He is cleared thru with his special ID. He parks his cube truck, marked out as a national tv network relay vehicle, off to the side. In the back of the truck is a huge bomb. He checks everything out, covers it and leaves.

The next day, in the middle of the huge Granville Island Market, surrounded by hundreds of shoppers, Kylie and Ryan cautiously meet

up with Grant. They think they're safe until the police arrive and surround the market, claiming a phony gas leak to evacuate everyone. Grant has framed them for sure! They're trapped! Outside, Leo is waiting, watching!

cut to:

ACT IV

Kylie and Ryan accuse Grant of all the terrorist acts. Grant attempts to prove his innocence as the police start into the empty market. Realizing they are about to be captured, Grant spots an open skylight above them. In a flash the three are now safe, for the time being, on the roof. But they are still trapped. Kylie spies a guywire, from the huge flagpole, that is anchored across the alley on a different building. If they slide down the wire, they'll be safe! They just cross and hide in the adjacent theatre building before Lukowitz climbs out the skylight. They're safe, except for Leo and PHIL spotting them.

Together at last, Grant fills the others in on his findings, that Hammond is behind everything, and why. Ryan is really angry, how dare he accuse his uncle?!? Grant, sure that Ryan has been giving info to Hammond, waves the disk with the proof on it in Ryan's face. Ryan storms up to the roof to be alone. Leo and Phil are trying to find them in the darkened theatre. Kylie, unable to get thru to Grant, goes up to the roof to talk to Ryan. Ryan won't believe his uncle would do this.

Before they have a chance to clear up their fight, Leo and Phil smash into the room and corner Grant. Grant tries to escape and is shot by Leo. Before he collapses, he throws the disk thru the open skylight. Up on the roof, Ryan grabs the disk, giving them away. Kylie and Ryan race off, with Leo and Phil in close pursuit. Next to the theatre is a massive concrete plant. Kylie pulls Ryan into it, hoping to hide from Leo and Phil.

Trapped behind a concrete mixer, Kylie and Ryan make a break for the main gravel silos. Ryan is shot by Leo. In pain, he's dragged by Kylie into the base of a silo. He gives Kylie the disk and tells her to get away, that he loves her. She doesn't want to leave him, but he insists. With a final look back, she runs off.

Phil finds Ryan as he's trying to stop the blood flowing from his wound. Ryan is just able to pull a lever, sending tons of gravel down onto Phil, killing him. But Leo pulls Ryan out into the yard, holding a gun to his head. He wants the disk, or else.

Kylie steps out of hiding, up on top of the gravel storage silos. She holds out the disk. Come and get it, she taunts. Leo, exasperated, knocks Ryan unconscious and starts after Kylie. What

is she going to do?!? Where are the police? Who's will save her?
cut to:

ACT V

Terrified, Kylie waits on top of the concrete plant for Leo. After a horrible fight, she is just able to kick him into the top of a gravel silo. The gravel shifts and pulls him under. Kylie staggers down to find Ryan recovering. But the gunshots have alerted the police and they scramble to get away, again.

Ryan and Kylie end up escaping from the police up on the industrial rooftops. Trapped by a building blocking their way, Kylie dives thru a plate glass window into an office. They are just able to escape the building ahead of the police and Lukowitz.

Hammond finds out from a battered and bruised Leo that Phil is dead and Kylie and Ryan are still free. Despite this, Hammond decides to finish what he's started and sends Leo down to check on the bomb and to set the timer. Hammond downloads more files to Kylie's home computer, implicating them in the upcoming attack.

Safe for a moment, Kylie realizes they can't stop now, despite what's happened to Grant, they've got to stop Hammond from killing the president. The entire plan is on the disk. Exhausted and wounded, Ryan just wants to stop. They've got proof of their innocence, they should go to the police. Kylie is shocked at his attitude and they fight.

Below the Pan Pacific Hotel, in the tv truck, Leo arms the bomb. The President arrives out front to a crowd of well wishers and carefully controlled protesters. Hammond watches the arrival from the crowd, checking his watch. The President is right on time.

Frustrated with Ryan's attitude, Kylie leaves him and, all alone, races across town to stop Hammond from killing the President.
cut to:

ACT VI

The Presidential gala dinner. In the middle of the huge room, Hammond is enjoying his meal, while all around him, the rich and famous have gathered to hear the President speak.

Kylie, while hiding under the Pan Pacific Hotel, sees Leo climbing out of the tv truck. That's where the bomb is, directly underneath the hotel! When it blows up, the explosion will destroy the driveway and the President's limo from below. Just like they planned! But there is huge security everywhere. She doesn't know what to do until Ryan suddenly arrives at her side.

Together, they slip inside the hotel, acting like new waiters.

Now disguised as waiters, Ryan and Kylie are spotted by the police. While trying to loose them within the hotel, Ryan realizes they both can't escape and stops, urging Kylie to get to the bomb and save the day. She doesn't want to leave him. Finally, he convinces her to go, just before the police arrive and capture him. He's got the disk with the evidence against Hammond. Kylie escapes and quickly sneaks to the tv truck.

Hammond realizes the President's speech is almost over and slips out of the function to view the upcoming explosion.

Inside the tv truck, Kylie stares at the bomb, vainly trying to figure out how to disarm it. Before she has a chance to try anything, the back door swings open and a battered Leo storms in. She's trapped with Leo and the bomb!

cut to:

ACT VII

As the minutes tick away, Leo starts tying her to the bomb. Kylie kicks him over, knocking him out. She quickly ties him up.

Kylie races out of the truck and back into the hotel. She can't stop the bomb, so she must delay the president. But how? Remembering what Ryan did to stop the motorcade, Kylie is just able to topple a totem pole in front of the President, by swinging across to it on a huge banner. In the confusion that ensues, the bomb goes off, tearing apart the president's limo. Only Leo is killed, still trapped in the tv truck. Kylie did it, she saved the President!

Hammond, off in the distance, sees that the bomb didn't go off at the right time, and knows that something went wrong. The President is ok and Secret Service men are swarming around the burning car. Concerned, Hammond quickly starts back to his office. Kylie collapses to the floor in relief and gives herself up to a flood of Secret Service agents and Lukowitz.

Hammond is in his office when the door suddenly opens and in walks Kylie, Ryan and Lukowitz. Ryan has the disk incriminating Hammond. Hammond reaches down and picks up a grouping of thin glass vials. They are the rest of the toxic gas, removed from their safety housings. He also picks up a small gas mask.

Lukowitz suddenly lunges at Hammond, trying to get the vials. The vials drop and the toxic gas is set free. Hammond rolls over and clamps the mask to his face. The three start coughing and choking. Kylie spins and charges across the tile. She jumps at

the fish tank, curling up to hit it with her shoulder. The glass shatters and the water pushes Kylie back out onto the tile floor. The wave rolls across the floor, covering the broken vials. The gas is neutralized!

Hammond leaps to his feet and races across the room to the door. As he passes the broken fish tank, Ryan trips Hammond into the shattered remains of the fish tank. He lands right on a jagged piece of glass, stabbing him through the neck. With a shudder, he dies, his blood flowing into the remains of the fish tank.

Ryan gets up and crosses to Kylie. She's shaken but ok. The water stopping the gas was the flaw Kylie found in that particular terrorist plan. But Hammond didn't read the complete file. He didn't do his research and now he's dead. It's over.

cut to:

Kylie, Ryan and Grant, with a chest bandage, are playing their new interactive video game. They have turned their real life experience into a profitable video game. But back at Hammond's office, someone is downloading their files from Hammond's computer. Maybe it isn't over, yet....

THE END

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