

A SCRIPT FROM



“Awe & Wonder”

By
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What	When Lydia takes her two friends Elizabeth and Alex to the top of a mountain to see Mars at peak proximity to Earth - a once in a lifetime event, the conversation while waiting becomes about God’s beautiful creations and how we serve a God who made everything with a purpose. But will Elizabeth see and understand that for herself?
Who	Lydia Elizabeth Alex
When	Present day; 3:30am
Why	Colossians 1:17; Isaiah 40:26; Psalm 147:4; Job 26:14
Time	Approximately 13 minutes

LYDIA enters at a run stage right. She's wearing a backpack and carrying various assorted telescopes.

LYDIA

Guys! Come on! We're here!

LYDIA begins unpacking her gear...and there's a lot of it. She's setting up tripods, she's assembling telescopes, laying out blankets, etc. She realizes her companions are not with her.

LYDIA

(vaguely to stage right)

Alex? Elizabeth? Are you guys coming?

ELIZABETH enters stage right. She's got a much smaller backpack strapped to her back, and she's very preoccupied with a bug flying around her head.

ELIZABETH

SWEET NICOLAS CAGE WHAT IS THAT? Get away from me, you abomination.

LYDIA

I'm not an abomination.

ELIZABETH

I'm not talking to you! I'm talking to this flying insect the size of a Chipotle burrito currently trying to murder me.

LYDIA

I can't believe it's still cloudy! This is terrible. My app said it would clear up. Where's Alex?

[It should be noted here that ALEX is a foreign exchange student. It doesn't really matter what kind, but he needs an accent.]

ALEX (OS)

The mountain thwarts me!

ALEX enters stage right, tangled up in some kind of vine around his foot. His attempts to shake it off are fruitless.

ALEX

America seeks retribution and attacks a non-native son. The vines rise up against me.

LYDIA is rummaging around in her backpack.

LYDIA

Did I stick the lanterns in your bag, Elizabeth? I can't find them.

ELIZABETH continues to over dramatically deal with the insect buzzing around her. She tosses her backpack to LYDIA.

ELIZABETH

Here, you check. If I take my eyes off of it, I'm dead. This is why I don't do nature. Nature wants to kill you. It's fighting back against like, plastic water bottles and aerosol hairspray.

ALEX

(seeing the bug, takes off his shoe)

I will destroy it. Be very still.

They both freeze, eyes searching for the bug. LYDIA drops something, breaking the spell the bug has placed on ELIZABETH and ALEX. They break from their freeze.

ELIZABETH

That's right, Chipotle burrito bug. STEP OFF.

ALEX

(still holding his shoe, takes out his phone and pushes some buttons, speaking into it)

Dear mother, my American companions have taken me up...

(releases button, to ELIZABETH)

...where are we again?

ELIZABETH

Agiococook Mountain.

ALEX

(back into phone, mangles the pronunciation)

Mountain...we will be...

(releases button, back to ELIZABETH)

...what are we doing?

ELIZABETH

We've already explained this to you.

ALEX

Yes, but English is my second language, so when you tell me we are going to "dab on" the stars, that doesn't make any sense to me. Lydia, what are we doing?

LYDIA

(still setting up equipment)

We're going to see Mars at PEAK PROXIMITY to Earth. Tonight, at 3:50am Mars will be the closest that it will ever be to us in our lifetime. That is, if the clouds will MOVE *(she shouts to the sky)*.

ALEX

(back into phone)

We will be looking at the planet Mars through a telescopic device. Hopefully. There appears to be cloud cover. Mother, I love you and I hope you are having a perfect day. Just 207 days until I see you again *(farewell greeting in native language, releases button)*.

ELIZABETH

(the bug has returned)

It's back! It loves my lantern. Dear Evan Hansen, it is the size of a cat!

She does a few karate type moves as ALEX goes to LYDIA.

ALEX

May I help you?

LYDIA

(she hands him a piece of her telescope as she assembles it)

Yes, please. Hold this and don't move.

ALEX

(looking around)

Why did we have to go all the way out here? To the middle of nowhere? My mother warned me about Americans.

ELIZABETH and LYDIA

Light pollution.

ELIZABETH

(still fighting off the bug)

It's because of light pollution. We can see better out here. I don't really know what light pollution is, but she's been talking about light pollution for the past 7 years. We don't want your kidneys, my dude. I do want you to work on putting that shoe back on because a lifetime of (country of origin insane food preference) has given them a certain pungency.

ALEX tries to not move and put his shoe on at the same time.

LYDIA

(consults her app)

It looks like we'll have some cloud clearing in a couple of minutes. *(she continues setting up her telescope)* You know it's kind of amazing we can even see anything in the universe at all.

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