

AMONG THE STARS

Draft Four

Written by

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Note to filmmakers: This story is about two boys. However, if you wish to film this script with different genders - of any combination - I'm more than happy to collaborate on rewrites.

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INT. ALEX'S BEDROOM - DAY

The organised mess of a teenager's bedroom. Clothes pile up in one corner. In another, a small desk is stacked with textbooks, DVDs, model dinosaurs and a laptop.

Two fourteen-year-olds, JAY and ALEX, lie side-by-side on the bed. They stare up at the ceiling.

ALEX  
What about your mom?

Jay shrugs.

JAY  
Took off.

ALEX  
Sorry.

Jay shakes his head.

JAY  
Always felt more at home here  
anyway.

Alex looks at him. Jay shifts, changes the subject.

JAY (CONT'D)  
Yours okay? Didn't see her.

ALEX  
In the other room, with dad. Crying  
into a photo album.

They look up at the ceiling.

JAY  
Where d'you think it is? The big  
rock.

Alex's eyes narrow as he thinks. He points upwards.

On Alex's ceiling - a panorama of glow-in-the-dark stickers. Stars and constellations.

Jay's own finger points to the same spot, then drags across the sky to a constellation.

JAY (CONT'D)  
What's that one called?

ALEX  
Ursa Major. The great bear.

JAY  
What?! How is that thing a bear?

Alex laughs.

ALEX  
You have to use your imagination.  
There's the tail...

Jay's hand rests back on the bed; nudges Alex's.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
And its legs, there...

Jay's pinky and ring finger trace a line down Alex's hand,  
then hook round his palm.

Alex struggles to keep his voice steady.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
And that weird bit jutting out is  
its head.

Alex's hand opens up to Jay's; their fingers interlock.

JAY  
Think that's where we'll end up?  
Out there somewhere?

ALEX  
I'd like that.

JAY  
(points to himself)  
Jay Major.  
(looks at Alex, wiggles his  
pinky)  
Alex Minor!

ALEX  
Shut up!

Alex shoves Jay. They laugh. Jay's eyes meet Alex's.

With trembling breath, their lips meet in a kiss.

They gaze into each other's eyes.

Jay lies flat again, taking Alex's hand in his and pointing  
with the other.

JAY  
What's that one called?

Alex's eyes linger on Jay, then drift back up towards the  
stars.

CUT TO:

INT. ALEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The boys sit together, cross-legged on the bed.

The room begins to shake. Books and toys topple to the floor.

Panic hits Alex, his eyes filling as they dart around the room.

A hand on the back of his neck - Jay's - steadies him.

The bedroom light flickers, then dies. The room is plunged into darkness.

Then, an eerie glow - the stickers on the ceiling cast their light.

The boys look up, then back at each other.

For a moment the rumbling, the shaking, falls away. Alex stares into Jay's eyes and sees stars. He smiles through his tears.

Jay pulls their foreheads together. They close their eyes.

The wave hits.