

Judith Barry, *Space Invaders*, 1982

I'm glad we could make the trip together. You're awfully quiet.

I know. I'm thinking.

I wish they could get rid of that fake sky.

You have to start somewhere.

I know but I'd rather see something a little more exciting, a little fresher. This looks so worn out.

I think it's reassuring. We don't know what's really out there.

No. Just more lonely stars, I guess. Almost there. There he is. I see him. Remember that? Can you pick him up yet?

No, we're not even close.

May all your dreams come true.

No.

Ok. Good, Get ready. How long?

Long enough. There's always time here.

We all the time in the world.

I think I see her.

I do too. Hang on. Don't get too excited, we'll lose him. It's out of sync right now.

Oh no.

Pay attention, this can get dangerous.

It's been so long. You don't know how much this means to me.

One night. That's all you want?

You've never been in love. You don't know how I feel.

You're sure it's not something else?

No, we can never be sure.

We got it online.

He's looking around. Do you think he knows?

It's got to be him.

Don't get your hopes up. It's hard to be a hero and don't forget the rules. You can't touch him while he's dancing.

Look, just lonely. I need someone to believe.

I know but it won't make up for the difference?

Why did you want to come here? You don't usually play.

No, but I was.

You shy?

No. It's better than the movies, it's the present.

Maybe you'll meet someone.

I have to take care of you.

Don't worry about me. I can take care of myself. Gotta cut in.

We're losing him.

Oh no.

He's gone.

I always knew there were things I was missing. All around for as long as I can remember no leisure, all mediated time, valuable time which I had to absorb. So many moving symbols, images of an unshared past with only the news to deny the present, and so few ways to escape. I couldn't be blamed for dreaming, for trying to hold a place. I must have known it wouldn't be possible. No one could touch me. I was the best. There were too many dreams to be had. Nothing seemed real even then and that got in the way. Something was looking for me.

*[Music plays]*

I think I've got it again.

Is he ready?

Are you sure you want to go through with this?

In this room I can't tell what time it is. It could be yesterday or tomorrow.

What's happening? Answer me.

Quiet. You're breaking the connection. Relax.

Nothing has been the same. Why am I so tired all the time?

What would happen if we stopped?

Nothing.

Then we can't let that happen to him.

Please try to drop me in.

He's just marking time.

No, he's asleep.

He's dancing.

Why didn't you wake him?

What's he thinking?

He's afraid he'll lose his place, his dreams.

Are you saying that to frighten me?

You have all the time.

That's all right.

We're in the same time.

I must have known that. I was dreaming for someone. I thought they were mine. I guess it made me stumble. How long have I been lying there?

You shouldn't have left the TV on.

So many worlds, all trying to get in. My world, waiting for me. They all look the same and the hidden disappearing past.

You couldn't believe that the future had come.

I had my dreams. I tried to turn the set back.

In your faith. Try to hold him. Don't let go.

There's no escape.

I was so sure I was going somewhere. I had been so careful. I knew the only way to live was to claim the past or to try to dream. Everyone can be a star. It could happen at any time. In order to get me you'll have to catch me in my present.

You wanted this.

This is your big break.

You're a star.

I'm a star.