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Back to the Future

Written by

West Rosen

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Draft

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Contact

westrosen@gmail.com

wrosen@columbiacollege.edu

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INT. HILL VALLEY UNIVERSITY - OFFICE - DAY

Superimpose: **Hill Valley, CA, 1945**

EMMETT "DOC" BROWN, 31, is being reprimanded by his superiors at the university. PROFESSOR POWERS and PROFESSOR ELAINE, both have Doc Brown seated, looking feeble.

DOC

You don't understand. Time travel is theoretically possible. There's countless literature on the subject. I know it can be achieved, at least the actualization of the blue prints for some sort of time machine. I just haven't had my break through yet but with more time I could-

POWERS

That's the problem, Emmet. You've been using the university to house your research on a crack pot time travel project. This is most unethical.

ELAINE

There is going to be consequences, Emmet. This will not stand. The next time you're discovered using University resources for the purposes of your own research, your professorship at this University will be terminated.

DOC

You're making a mistake here. Time travel is absolutely necessary to learn about and avoid cataclysmic events that may be upcoming.

POWERS

It's insanity. It's a complete waste of time, Emmet. There is no plausibility of you discovering time travel, because we will not allow you the resources to do so anymore. You will be teaching biology now to freshmen. That is, if you want to remain a professor here at Hill Valley University.

DOC

This isn't fair. You must reconsider.
I'm trying to do this to benefit all
of humanity.

POWERS

The decision is final, Emmet Brown.
Your professorship is at stake here.

CUT TO:

INT. TANNEN'S LOUNGE - NIGHT

Doc sits drinking shots of whiskey, looking depressed. Jocky
looking bartender, MR. TANNEN walks up.

MR. TANNEN

Hey, what's the matter, Doc?

DOC

Like I need an intellectually
bankrupted, mental midget prying into
my tormented life. Go bring me
another round.

MR. TANNEN

Yes, sir. Right away.

He gets his drinks.

He gets a few more in him as time has passed. He gets up and
leaves the bar.

CUT TO:

EXT. BRIDGE - HILL VALLEY - NIGHT

A drunken Doc Brown has come to a bridge to throw himself
over and kill himself. Just as he is preparing to do so, an
explosive sound is heard and lightning flashes in the middle
of the street.

THE ICONIC DELOREAN TIME MACHINE appears. Out steps an
older, but immediately recognizable, MARTY MCFLY.

DOC

What in the clear blue blazes?

Marty walks up to Doc and takes off his futuristic looking
sunglasses.

MARTY

Doc Brown, I've come back from the future to save you, friend. You were almost going to kill yourself because of some mistake. A rift in the timeline.

DOC

Who are you? So time travel already exists?

MARTY

My names Marty McFly. You become my mentor in about ten years and then again in 1984. Time travel exists but only because of you and without you it won't exist at all. You were supposed to be so distraught that you would have been driven to suicide by these rogue time travelers.

DOC

Great Scott!

MARTY

Ten years from now on November, 5th, 1955, you were going to bump your head on your sink, causing you to come up with the idea for the flux capacitor. The device needed to achieve time travel.

DOC

Wow, exactly, because this flux capacitor I will later invent must have to do with the excess amount of flux energy, present when time traveling would occur. Wait, so now I've discovered it? Just like that?

MARTY

It looks like it. Only I had to come back to try and protect you and ensure this outcome.

DOC

What caused this?

MARTY

A group of detractors of yours in the future have gone on a suicide mission, to ruin your career and stop you from inventing time travel.

(MORE)

MARTY (cont'd)

They have engineered it in such a way that you are not even sure who in your life is supposed to be there and who is a time traveling plant, determined to ruin your life.

DOC

I might have some ideas about who is and who isn't.

CUT TO:

EXT. TWIN PINES BOUTIQUE - DAY

An attractive, vintage looking thrift shop with the sign which reads *Twin Pines Boutique*.

DOC

With your futuristic garb, you'll stick out like a sore digit.

Marty and Doc walk into the thrift store.

INT. TWIN PINES BOUTIQUE

Marty looks at a variety of suits in various colors. The clothes. He gets some clothes together to try on.

We see him in the mirror suited up.

He fits in well like the other men from the 1940's.

CUT TO:

INT. HILL VALLEY UNIVERSITY - SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Emmet Brown and Marty McFly build the Flux capacitor in the laboratory.

DOC

It's taken me over twenty years to discover the vision that could make this a reality.

MARTY

It would have been 10 years from now. Now you don't have to bump your head to come up with the flux capacitor.

DOC

Great Scott, that would mean that we are now existing in an alternate timeline from the one you came from.

MARTY

That's what I've come to understand from what you taught me in my timeline. Everything I know I learned from you.

Doc continues to fiddle with the Y shaped flux capacitor.

DOC

Thank goodness you brought back plutonium with you to generate the power source. I assume it's more plentiful in the future than it is currently.

MARTY

Yeah, that will be harder to come by in this time.

DOC

If only there was some kind of nuclear power plant.

MARTY

Yeah, those won't exist for a few more years. All we have is the plutonium I brought back with me and it's only enough for one trip.

DOC

Well, we've completed the flux capacitor. Our only option is to try to advance nuclear power by a few years and start developing these nuclear power plants.

Just then the door is heard being stomped on from the outside.

INT. HILL VALLEY UNIVERSITY - SCIENCE LAB - HALLWAY - DAY

Professor Powers, Professor Elaine, accompanied by the AUTHORITIES and the DEAN of the school, 50. The cops and administrators break through the door of the science lab into the room with Doc Brown and Marty.

INT. HILL VALLEY UNIVERSITY - SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Doc and Marty try to gather up all their material and spring for the back of the room to exit out the window. Doc Brown puts the flux capacitor under his arm. He pulls out a pistol and starts firing at the police. Marty McFly has some sort of plasma laser that he uses from the future. They get into a shootout with the police. The school administrators are killed in the process. The police however are not all dead and continue the pursuit as Doc and Marty have schlepped hurriedly all their work out the window.

EXT. HILL VALLEY UNIVERSITY - DAY

Marty and Doc Brown hop into the DELOREAN and speed off. They are continually pursued by the police in their 1940's squad cars. The future car speeds through the campus grounds evading pedestrians. The cops and bystanders are baffled by what is to them, a UFO (the Delorean is capable of flight)

EXT. HILL VALLEY - DAY

Sticking close to the ground, more hovering than flying as the machine is not in the most prime condition, needing it's plutonium power source replenished.

The cops crash their cars and the Delorean escapes.

INT. DELOREAN TIME MACHINE - DAY

DOC

This isn't happening. We murdered those people, Marty. My life is over.

Marty remains silent and drives stoic as Brown panics.

DOC (cont'd)

Those two back at the university. Powers and Elaine and the Dean as well. All have ruined me and bringing in the police to get me in legal qualms. I'm now going to be wanted for Murder, Marty.

Marty takes off his sunglasses and looks at Doc with a strange, stern demeanor.

MARTY

I've had to do worse things to preserve the timeline.

(MORE)

MARTY (cont'd)

Entire genocides have been committed due to mistakes done by others while time traveling. It's a matter of whether it's-

Doc looks at Marty, startled.

DOC

What?

MARTY

-Necessary or not or simply a choice of the traveler. Over the years I've had to learn to do what is necessary in the interest of preserving the very things we value in life and the scientific method that you taught me, Doc.

Doc looks alarmed.

DOC

Great Scott. What have I done? What have I created?

MARTY

The tools to excavate our dreams and rewrite reality.

DOC

No, it was not meant for that.

MARTY

For what?

DOC

Callous self interest.

MARTY

You're too young at this point. Still so idealistic. Doc, you inspired me in the future but now the dynamic is so different. Clearly you are willing to do what is necessary in this time period though, as you killed those time traveling imposters at your school and fired at those cops.

DOC

That's only because I've been dragged here to this place of desperation by you, who's forced me to prematurely forge that which you have just revealed to me is simply used by you as a tool for you to play god!

Marty shakes his head.

MARTY

You will see, Doc.

DOC

Tell me now, old man. What are you? Chicken? Bach. Bach.
(chicken sounds)

MARTY

Don't call me chicken, boy.

DOC

I demand to know everything that's going on that you haven't told me. Those two at the University, you say were these time traveling sort of boogie men I am to fear?

MARTY

Your naivety at this point in your life is profound, Doc. Yes, everyone you are professionally involved with is against you, Doc. I am your only friend in the world during this time.

Sadness overcomes Doc Brown, mixed with frustration.

DOC

But if they were successful and if I had died before building the flux capacitor, wouldn't that undo them being able to prevent me from doing my work in discovering time travel?

MARTY

We have a knack for incomprehensible paradoxes you will find, Doc.

The delorean comes to the outskirts of Hill Valley, in the hills they come to a cave. Parks Delorean.

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

Marty and Doc Brown build a fire and camp in the cave to hideout.

They sit around the fire, burning as time passes. The tension has grown significantly and mutually both look as though they don't trust each other anymore.

MARTY

You can take a rest now. I'll stay up and keep look out.

DOC

No, it's fine. I'll stay up. You can rest if you like.

MARTY

What's the matter, Doc? Can't I get your confidence? This isn't the Doc I know and love.

DOC

Look, Mr. McFly. I have no reason at this point to believe a single word you say to me. If it weren't for you I'd not be in this situation.

MARTY

If you had allowed your peers their way, you would have thrown yourself off the bridge and everything you will eventually do would be undone.

DOC

Maybe that struggle was what was necessary to build the strength of character to do the work needed to invent the time machine.

MARTY

Well, thank you and I will take my fair share of the credit in producing these results!

DOC

I did all this alone. You've just set it into motion earlier than was needed.

MARTY

I'm telling you, Doc. Those two were determined to ruin your life. They essentially wanted to murder you.

DOC

I don't believe your words, Marty. In fact, it has occurred to me that perhaps it is the one trying to convince me that everyone is against me, that's my true enemy!

Doc jumps up from being seated and lands on Marty with all his weight, elbowing him across the face and pinning him to the ground. Marty slips out and tries to choke Doc but the two grapple on the ground equally trying to subdue the other in different wrestling positions.

MARTY

Emmet, don't be an idiot! You're under a delusion. I'm not the one trying to gaslight you here.

Doc stops fighting briefly, confused.

DOC

Gas-what?

MARTY

I guess that term hasn't caught on yet. The movie only was released a year ago, I suppose.

DOC

Explain your quick witted future jargon! You have 1 minute to talk me out of what I'm about to do.

Doc pulls his pistol.

DOC (cont'd)

Start talking, Marty. Just don't talk yourself out of your next breath of oxygen.

MARTY

Okay, okay, Doc. You win.

Marty quickly draws his laser and shoots the pistol right out of Emmet's grip while simultaneously shooting off Doc's hand in the process. The laser singes the flesh.

DOC

Ah! Bastard!

Marty fires again at Doc Brown but misses. Doc picks up his pistol off the ground with his other hand and fires at Marty. Doc manages to shoot the laser gun out of Marty's hand as well, breaking it in the process. Doc is now out of bullets however. They go back to fist fighting and wrestling.

Marty eventually manages to wrestle Doc into a hold and keeps him there.

MARTY

Are you done? This is by far the most unintelligent thing I think I've ever seen you do, Doc. Can't believe it's come to this. Breaks my heart.

Doc slips out of the hold. He pulls out a short knife and puts it right in Marty.

MARTY (cont'd)

Oof.

Marty is okay and manages to find the strength to pick up a near rock and smashes Doc's face in with it brutally, killing him finally. Marty looks both appalled and anxious about what he has done.

MARTY (cont'd)

Fuck. This is not what I had in mind.

Marty holds his wound to stop the bleeding. He sits around the dwindling fire next to Emmet Brown's lifeless body.