

MARIA AUDITION SCRIPT

Ben Avery

contact@supersonicpodcomics.com

FIRST SEGMENT

MARIA

. . . here's what I do know. I've been studying phenomenon - UFO phenomenon or whatever you want to categorize it as - skeptically almost all my life! And here's where I always start - the person who experienced it either is lying or they truly believe. And if they truly believe, they are either delusional and believe something that's not true, or what they experienced really did happen.

RADIO HOST

You're listening to the News Hour on National Public Network. If you have a question for our guest, Maria Cain, author of the book The Skeptical Believer, you can call in now. So Ms. Cain. The object. Was it a UFO?

MARIA

(laughs)
Almost certainly!

RADIO HOST

So . . . aliens?

MARIA

I didn't say that. All I'm saying is that the thing we destroyed was an object . . . that was flying . . . and that is unidentified! U, F, and O.

RADIO HOST

So you believe all these things have rational explanations, if not as interpreted by the people who experienced them..

MARIA

Sure. There's a rational explanation for everything that happens.

RADIO HOST

You just happen to believe that one rational explanation could be aliens.

(CONTINUED)

MARIA

Emphasis on the "could". Another example is lost time. You're doing something and suddenly you realize that minutes or hours or days have gone by and you have no memory of it happening. This is a real phenomenon. I've seen irrefutable proof, but while it's proven to have happened there's no explanation for why!

(CONTINUED)

SECOND SEGMENT

INT. CAIN HOUSE - NIGHT

SFX: door opening

SFX: keys dropping on counter

SFX: footsteps

MARIA

Welcome home.

TOBY

Maria? What are you doing here? I thought you were doing that radio interview!

MARIA

It was a remote. From home.

TOBY

But it wasn't going to be a remote, right?

MARIA

Yeah, they were going to have me drive to a studio in New Sunberg. But I asked if we could do it as a remote, from home, and they said yes because my podcasting equipment was good enough and so I thought I'd surprise you since I haven't been home most evenings since the object blew up.

TOBY

Right. Cool. I heard some of it. You did great.

MARIA

Where have you been? I ordered Chinese. Another surprise for you.

TOBY

Oh, I uh, stayed after school for some grading and then I just went to the opening of the new Pistolfist movie. Grabbed a Big Big Burger. From Bigsby's Burgers. Went to the movie at 7:00. Thursday showing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIA

The interview was at 7:00. How'd you hear it?

TOBY

During the movie. My earbuds. It wasn't the greatest movie so I streamed some of your interview from the app. Listen, there was no way I was going to completely miss my wife's big public radio debut.

MARIA

Really?

TOBY

(a beat)

Yeah. Yeah. And what I heard, you did great. That's the truth.

MARIA

Thanks.

TOBY

I should've let you know. I'm sorry. I'm really . . . sorry.

MARIA

I should've let you know. I was just sitting here letting myself get angrier and angrier instead of just trying to communicate with you. I'm sorry.

TOBY

You got Chinese?

MARIA

Yeah.

TOBY

Orange chicken?

MARIA

Yeah . . . but I ate it. I was upset and I knew it was your favorite and I ate it all. But I left the beef and broccoli for you.

TOBY

Good enough!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MARIA

You want to tell me about the movie? I know you liked the first one.

TOBY

Nah. Let's not talk about about. Let's talk about your evening. Any good callers?

MARIA

No. There was this lady who called in swearing up and down that she was seeing two angels with fire wings above her cornfields or something.

TOBY

And how'd that go over?

MARIA

It brought up some good discussion about the recent rise in super-human phenomena . . .