AN AMORPHOUS AI MIXED MEDIA MONTAGE

Screens within screens within reels within reels within PODCASTS droning on, melting within online shopping carts, within a finger swiping all WELLNESS focused content.

The phone battery dies and the cracked screen goes dark. In the black screen we see the ghost-like reflection of ELSA.

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elsa, 28, highly intelligent yet neurotic, sits plump in a giant T-shirt and ill fitting glasses. She plugs her dead phone in on her night stand and turns the light off.

Her eyes are sharp and impatient in the shadows. She clutches a very tattered teddy bear to her chest.

The phone turns back on. She jumps right back to searching, the screen light halos her determined expression.

SUPER: THE IMPECCABLE ART OF NEVER-ENDING WELLNESS

INT. ELSA'S WORK DESK - DAY

Elsa swirls a green powder packet into a glass of water, and adds herbal tincture drops. Her face is illuminated by a Red Light Therapy panel as she digs into a spreadsheet.

ALLEN, 20s, an elegantly styled gay yuppie snickers a few desks over.

ELSA

Sound travels.

ALLEN

It's next level girl. And what does this one do?

Elsa turns the panel toward Allen, cascading the Red Light Therapy his way.

ELSA

Do you feel it's powers?

ALLEN

I can't see. Stop. It's blinding.

ELSA

41% of our population is vitamin D deficient and don't even know it.

Elsa swings the panel back to herself and basks.

ALLEN

What are the symptoms?

ELSA

Everything I have. So, shortness of breath, dizzy upon standing, a loss of--

ALLEN

Shit. It's 2 PM.

Allen grabs a folder from his desk and hustles past Elsa.

ELSA

Save me a seat!

Elsa chugs her green juice and stands. She collects papers into a folder when CREAK her lower back erupts in pain. She doubles over, recovers, grabs the folder, and hobbles away.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Sleek furnishings and bright contemporary art where seven stylish CREATIVE TECH EXECUTIVES, 30s and 40s, concentrate on the presentation by CEO BRANDON, 30s, a child of the 1% and an A class douche bag.

Elsa, Allen, and the Tech Execs watch intently.

BRANDON

So basically the SEO biomarker compounds against the interest rates of the machine learning prototypes amplifying our crypto proficiency well beyond quantum computings tactical particulates.

He concludes to the rooms applause, Elsa and Allen perplexed, reluctantly clap.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

Thank you. Ok so let's go over to the Q1 market trends.

Allen steps up regally while Elsa gathers her papers and stands. She SHRIEKS and freezes as immense lower back pain JOLTS through her spine. Everyone GASPS.

ELSA

I'm fine. I'm fine.

She slowly straightens up, her breath catches in her throat. The Execs watch with disgust.

She tries to take another step toward Allen. CRACKLE her back seizes and lurches her forward. She freezes hunched over.

BRANDON

Do you need medical attention?

ELSA

No, no. I'm fine.

She tries to step again. But SCREAMS. Brandon looks at her with disdain.

BRANDON

We'll raincheck.

Brandon nods at the team. The Tech Execs pack and quickly exit, leaving Elsa and Allen in the dust.

ALLEN

What the fuck...

ELSA

I don't know.

INT. OFFICE HALL - DAY

Allen helps Elsa hobble down the hall away from the conference room. They speak in hushed tones.

ELSA

I stood up at my desk and it just went out like boom.

ALLEN

Maybe it's your mattress. Or your pillows? When's the last time you got new pillows?

ELSA

Few years... like ten years...

ALLEN

Ew. Get new pillows.

ELSA

I just need an Advil. I'll be fine.

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elsa stands with two new pillows under her arms. She carefully stuffs them into pillow cases, eases into bed, grabs her Teddy Bear and gingerly tucks under the blankets. She gets her phone out and begins to scroll wellness content.

Her pain flares. She adjusts to get comfortable, but fails. Frustrated, she sits up and whips the blankets down, which accidentally flings her phone onto the floor. Fuck.

She attempts to stand, but is struck by agony.

Officially stuck in bed. Elsa glides her hands over her mattress searching. She discovers a large lump and runs her hands back and forth over it.

ELSA

God damn it...

Elsa carefully positions the pillows to curl herself around the mattress lump. She tucks in and turns off the light.

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Elsa wakes up, and sleepily stretches. She is limber! She sits up triumphant, swoops her legs off the side of the bed and stands. CRACKLE.

It's SO BAD that Elsa crumbles to the ground and becomes stuck on her stomach face down. She manages to roll to her side. She see's her phone across the room and drags herself toward it.

Phone in hand, she calls her neighbor.

ELSA

Hi Mrs. Santos, I'm so sorry to bother you, but I need your help. I threw out my back-- I can't get up. Can you come over?

INT. ELSA'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

MRS. SANTOS, 60s, a congenial doting grandmother type with a sassafras edge delicately lowers Elsa to the couch as she GROANS. Mrs. Santos tucks pillows to cocoon her.

MRS. SANTOS
There you are honey, how's that?
Like a little sushi roll...
(MORE)

MRS. SANTOS (CONT'D)

All tucked in. I brought some pain medication. Where's your cups?

Elsa points across the room.

ELSA

The cabinet on the left. I can't believe this is happening on top of everything else I'm already dealing with health wise...

Mrs. Santos exits and rummages around in Elsa's cabinets for a glass while Elsa tries to move but fails.

MRS. SANTOS (O.S.)

Maybe you just need to rest more... make you feel a little better. All that computer time, not healthy you know...

Mrs. Santos returns with water and pills. Elsa takes them.

ELSA

I think I need a new mattress.

MRS. SANTOS

Oh get the sleep number! I love my sleep number. Never been more comfy.

ELSA

New mattresses are so expensive. Are there mattress repair people?

MRS. SANTOS

Probably depends on the problem.

ELSA

It has a lump. Can't they cut the lump off?

MRS. SANTOS

You just rest up-- worry about all that later.

Mrs. Santos gathers herself to leave.

MRS. SANTOS (CONT'D)

You're ok now honey right?

Elsa drearily nods.

MRS. SANTOS (CONT'D)

Let me know if you need anything. I can pop back over. Those were Percoset, you may get drowsy. Bye!

ELSA

Bye.

Elsa stews impatient. She tries to reach for her phone on the coffee table. She can't reach.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Hey Siri.

SIRI

Yes Elsa.

ELSA

Search mattress repair shop.

SIRI

Searching mattress repair shop. No results found.

ELSA

Search repair mattress yourself.

SIRI

Searching repair mattress yourself. Results indicated.

ELSA

Top result please.

SIRI

Playing top result.

Siri begins to play the top result about mattress repair while Elsa listens.

YOUTUBE VOICE

Welcome to Pachamama workshop where we take back our earth based sovereignty. Today we are diving into handmade mattress design using materials like duck feathers, wool, recycled tires...

Elsa closes her eyes and drifts off to sleep.

INT. ELSA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Hours later Elsa jolts back awake. She sits up, and realizes she feels no pain. She stands drunkenly triumphant.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elsa traipse's into the room holding garden sheers and heavy gloves. Her phone continues to drone on about how to DIY repair a mattress.

Elsa pulls the pillows and blankets off her bed, and then pulls the sheet down. The lump looks especially pronounced under the mattress pad.

She caresses the lump, then pulls the mattress pad down with gravitas. But instead of a lump of mattress stuffing, she discovers a tiny ornate wooden door with a small doorknob.

Bewildered, she slowly crawls onto the mattress to get a closer look. Elsa studies the door.

ELSA

Hey Siri?

SIRI

Yes Elsa.

ELSA

What causes a small door to grow on a mattress?

SIRI

Inconclusive results.

Elsa touches the ornate design of the woodworking with the tip of her finger.

ELSA

Hey Siri.

SIRI

Yes Elsa.

ELSA

Can Percoset cause hallucination?

SIRI

Yes. Hallucinations are a potential side effect of ongoing opioid use.

ELSA

I only took two...

Elsa ponders the door and her sanity.

She turns the door knob and opens the small door. ETHEREAL music and shimmery purple light stream out of the door enveloping Elsa. She is entranced as she looks down into the gaping hole.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Hello?

Her voice echoes and modulates into the expanse beyond.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Can anyone hear me?

She cautiously lowers her hand through the doorway. Purple mist envelopes it and the music swells. She rips her hand out to find it is now perfectly manicured, glistening with moisturizer, and jeweled with rings.

She holds her fancy new hand up against her calloused old hand with it's chipped nail polish and broken nails, comparing them to one another in terrified awe.

INT. DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

Allen vogues in a swirl of club goers, his body intertwined with differing partners as he undulates in the crowd. His phone alerts him of a call. He digs it out of his pocket.

ALLEN

Elsa honey, you good?

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

ELSA

There's a door in my mattress. I don't know where it goes to.

ALLEN (O.S.)

Excuse me what?

ELSA

My back-- it was thrown out by a lump in my mattress, but the lump is a small door that goes somewhere... else. I'm on Percoset.

ALLEN (O.S.)

How much?

ELSA

Not much.

INT. DANCE CLUB - NIGHT

ALLEN

You thought you could handle opioids? You get uncomfortably high from green tea...

ELSA (O.S.)

It's real Allen. There is a door in my mattress.

ALLEN

I'm coming over.

Allen hangs up his phone, stuffs it into his pocket, leans over to his closest dance partner.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

My work wife OD'd on pain pills, I gotta go get her sorted...

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Allen and Elsa are entranced as they stare into the hole of the door, the purple light and music envelopes them.

Allen breaks out of the trance.

ALLEN

I'm closing it.

He shuts the door in a snap, and the room goes dark.

ELSA

No wait!

Allen grabs Elsa's hands and gets stern.

ALLEN

We don't know what this is. We don't know where it came from. And we don't know where it leads. What we need to do is figure out how to get this demon portal out of your bedroom before we both get killed!

Elsa pulls her hands away, opens the door and basks again in the mystical light and sound of the gateway.

ELSA

If it was evil, it wouldn't feel this good to be around it.

Allen closes the door again.

ALLEN

Don't you know anything about evil?!

Elsa fidgets.

ELSA

I think we should drop something in. See how deep it is.

Allen backs away from the bed disgusted.

ALLEN

If you want to do that-- you're on your own.

Elsa begins to open the door again.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Ok bye bitch!

Allen grabs his bag and coat and makes for the exit. Elsa closes the door.

ELSA

Ok fine, fine, fine, I won't.

Elsa holds out her hands displaying them for Allen.

ELSA (CONT'D)

But I really don't think it would have done this to my hand if it was dangerous.

Allen approaches and reluctantly inspects her fancy hand.

ALLEN

I'll pay for your next manicure. Get up!

Elsa gets off the mattress as Allen grips the corner of it and heaves half of it off the bed frame.

ALLEN (CONT'D)

Come on, grab the other side.

A stare down as Elsa hesitates. She gives in and grabs the other side of the mattress. They struggle to flop it up before moving it toward the door.

ELSA

Where am I supposed to sleep tonight?

ALLEN

Anywhere other then this mattress.

EXT. ALLEY NEAR DUMPSTERS - NIGHT

In the dank shadows of the alley they heave the mattress against dumpsters and step back. They stare at it entranced. Elsa steps up and flops the mattress over to see the door once more.

But she discovers that it is missing.

ELSA

It's gone Allen. The door's gone.

Allen whips over to investigate. He flops the mattress back and forth. No door. He drops the mattress with a THUD.

ALLEN

Probably for the best. Went back to whence it came. It's 3 AM. I need to go to bed. You're ok?

ELSA

I'm ok.

Allen kisses Elsa on the forehead.

ALLEN

Goodnight. Next time take Advil. Motrin. Tylenol. Anything other than opioids...

Allen walks away as Elsa calls after him.

ELSA

Thank you for helping me!

INT. ELSA'S CLOSET/HALL - NIGHT

Elsa pulls blankets off of a stack and tucks them under her arms. Her back PANGS. The pills have worn off.

Disheartened, she carefully hobbles out of the closet and slowly starts down the hall toward her living room.

But. She hears the gateway MUSIC. Disturbed, she looks back to see her bedroom door ajar. Purple light streams into the hall. She drops the blankets and creeps toward the door.

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elsa cautiously enters her room. The small door is now in the floor boards beneath her bed frame. The door is open, the MUSIC and purple light stream out.

Elsa creeps up and kneels down to gaze into the gateway.

ELSA

What do you want from me?

The echo of her voice is LOUD, emphasizing her question. A wind kicks up from the door, and a VOICE emerges.

PORTAL VOICE

I want to help you.

ELSA

How?

PORTAL VOICE

I can heal everything that's wrong with you.

Intrigued, yet uncertain, Elsa picks up her tattered teddy bear nearby. She contemplates his missing eye, and torn arm before dropping him into the gateway.

POOF! The purple light expands and MUSIC swells.

The bear vanishes deep into the portal momentarily before popping back up and into her arms.

The bear is now fully repaired. Fresh. Fluffy. As if he never aged. Elsa studies his perfect form in awe.

PORTAL VOICE (CONT'D)

Now you.

A black liquid casts over the doorway revealing Elsa's own reflection warped in the eerie black mirror. The reflection speaks back to her.

BLACK MIRROR ELSA I know exactly what you want.

ELSA

What do you think I want?

BLACK MIRROR ELSA

To always feel good.

Intoxicated and drawn in, Elsa touches her finger tip to the surface of the black liquid. An ELDERLY version of herself takes shape in the reflection. It speaks to her.

ELDER BLACK MIRROR ELSA

I'll make sure you'll never get sick. You'll never get old. You'll always be beautiful. You'll never die.

Elsa stares deep into the eyes of her elder self as the words slide across the depths of her soul

SNAP, she shuts the door and the room goes dark.

EXT. MRS. SANTOS DOOR - NIGHT

Else bangs on the door, a weary Mrs. Santos in hair rollers and pajamas opens the door.

MRS. SANTOS

Oh honey it's you, everything ok?

ELSA

No. Not really.

INT. ELSA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Mrs. Santos and Elsa kneel at the portal, the light and music cascade as the portal finishes it's pitch.

BLACK MIRROR ELSA

...and everything you have ever wanted.

Mrs. Santos closes the door. In the darkness she reaches for Elsa's hands and holds them tenderly. They gaze at one another in the shadows.

MRS. SANTOS

However this got here, and whatever this all is, you don't need it honey. Understand?

Elsa solemnly nods in agreement.

MRS. SANTOS (CONT'D)

You are just fine exactly as you are. Now how do we close this fucker up forever...

Mrs. Santos stands to rifle around the room seeking objects that might close the door. Elsa's phone LIGHTS UP with a message.

POV ELSA'S PHONE

The message reads "Don't listen to her. You need me."

BACK TO SCENE

Elsa squirms disorientated from the text, while Mrs. Santos brings an armful of supplies back to the portal.

MRS. SANTOS (CONT'D)
I think we could mix nail polish

remover, glue, and dirt to create a paste that will-

ELSA

No. I know what I need to do.

Elsa opens the door, again the music, the light, their expressions of awe.

Elsa picks up her phone and drops it into the portal.

WISP! A stream of smoke, a FLASH of light, and the portal vanishes. Stunned, Mrs. Santos graces her hand over the floor boards to feel for any signs of the portal. It's gone.

ELSA (CONT'D)

I'm going to need a new mattress.

MRS. SANTOS

Let's get you one of those sleep numbers, they really are the best.