

WHAT'S UP NORTH

Gas
(Working Episode Title)

Written by

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COLD OPEN

CUE TITLE: WHAT'S UP NORTH *

CUE TITLE DIRECTLY UNDERNEATH: SEASON 2 *

FADE IN: *

INT. SUBMARINE - NIGHT *

SUPER: 2057, SOMEWHERE UNDER THE ANTARCTIC

We're TIGHT on a RADAR SIGNAL, collecting information all around it as it circularly swirls.

As the signal continues, several RED DOTS appear in the distance of the radar signal. The swarm of dots nears fast.

LAMAR, REBEL FORCE MEMBER, looks down at his radar. *

LAMAR *

Got a swarm of bogies approaching from the North. *I repeat*, swarm nearing at twelve o'clock!

Sitting at his station behind Lamar sits a SILHOUETTED FIGURE. It's impossible to make out his face. *

SILHOUETTED FIGURE

Copy that. Fire the torpedoes!

LAMAR *

Negative, Commander. No torpedoes remain in the hull.

SILHOUETTED FIGURE

All right. Then let's redirect course 15 degrees at 48 knots. *

LAMAR *

That's a negative, Cap. They picked up our scent. Collision is imminent. *

SILHOUETTED FIGURE

Mhhhm... I guess that leaves one choice left...

The Silhouetted Figure gets up from his chair, stepping into the light to REVEAL HE IS FUTURE TORDJMAN/TRAVIS TORDJMAN! *

Future Tordjman wears a ROUGHED-UP BLACK SPACE SUIT and a scruffy beard... He's seen better days. Ocean algae hangs around his neck like a pooka-shell necklace.

FUTURE TORDJMAN

Lamb. Set my coordinates to 2020!

Lamar swivels back over to a computer and inputs in the digits. He then turns back to Future Tordjman.

LAMAR

Coordinates are set, Boss.

(then, concerned)

Are you sure you want to do this?

You could change the fabric of time

as we know it.

Future Tordjman puts his right arm to his chest, revealing a device on his arm that looks like a supped-up watch.

FUTURE TORDJMAN

That's the only shot we got left!

Future Tordjman presses down on his time watch. With a flash of light, he's immediately drawn into a smoke of particles. As the smoke disperses, Future Trevor has disappeared.

On our single-shot of Future Tordjman's chair, we--

CUT TO:

INT. STUDIO - DAY

WE'RE ECU TIGHT ON TREVOR TORDJMAN'S FACE.

TREVOR

Howdy, *What's Up North* compatriots.

We pull out to reveal that it's a normal day on the *What's Up North* studio. Trevor is wearing a scientist apron + goggles.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Trevor Tordjman here! And I'd like to start today's episode with a quick science experiment on--

A graphic of a balloon expands until it fills up the frame. It begins to pop. On its pop, we--

SUPER: THERMAL EXPANSION! *Accompanied by VO*

CUT TO:

EXT. STUDIO - DAY

Trevor now stands outside at a table in the driveway. Bunsen burners, test tubes and Erlenmeyer Flasks lay on a set table.

From out of frame slides a tied-up balloon filled with water. A lighter on the corner of frame blows up the balloon.

TREVOR

(putting on goggles)

Thermal Expansion deals with how heat can influence the shape or volume of an object based on a dramatic change in temperature.

(as balloon grows)

As heat enters this balloon, it expands, causing a change in its shape and volume.

Trevor takes his hand off of the Balloon to address camera. JORDAN CLARK holds her hand over the balloon as heat enters.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

What you're seeing right here is happening constantly in our ocean.

(then)

As greenhouse gas enters our atmosphere, excess heat is trapped within the ocean, and as an effect, our ocean levels expand and rise.

JORDAN, holding the balloon, enters the frame.

JORDAN

You still want me to hold this, or?

CUE BARS & TONE:

INT. STUDIO - CONTINUOUS

Trevor now sits in his dapper suit and tie outfit. The science experiment tools have been removed from the desk.

TREVOR

The majority of ocean expansion is caused by an increase of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere.

Trevor turns to B-Camera. <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases>

TREVOR (CONT'D)

There are many greenhouse gases in our environment.

(MORE)

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Some good, some bad! Like water vapor, which is *harmless* and necessary for life, **or** methane, which is *harmful* and comes from cow **burps**.

Trevor turns to A-camera.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Carbon Dioxide accounts for 82% of all greenhouse gases in our atmosphere. It's naturally necessary for our environment! We even release CO2 into the environment every time we breathe.

Our VFX/PEANUT GALLERY VOICE HOLDS HIS BREATH IN DEEPLY.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Oh, no! But keep breathing. It's natural! Everyone does it.

Peanut Gallery, relieved, exhales deeply.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

However, it is *imperative* that we keep our carbon emission levels in check to keep our earth healthy. According to a recent NASA study, our average global temperature is rising, and fast, increasing roughly 1.4 degrees since 1880.

Trevor turns to **B-Camera**.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

Emission rates have doubled since 1970**, and this has added to our global temperature. If the trend continues oceans levels could reach heights of cities such as Manhattan Los Angeles and Miami* (dali).

(a beat, then to B-Camera)

So, unless we want to live in a Waterworld, I'd suggest we try to--

*EPA website + <https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/global-temperature/>

WILLIAM THE WHALE

(interrupting)

Did somebody say Water World!??

A cup-sized wave of water crosses in frame, splashing Trevor.

Popping up from under the desk is WILLIAM THE WHALE. William smiles his teeth-less sock puppet whale grin to camera.

TREVOR
(spitting out water)
Well, what a surprise! What are you
doing here, Willsky!?

WILLIAM
I overheard you talk about a world
made of water! Please tell me more!

TREVOR
Sure. Increased carbon emissions
are leading to hotter ocean
temperatures, and, through thermal
expansion, are causing our oceans
to rise. *

WILLIAM
Wait! So you're tell me, *the ocean
may turn to an Earth-sized hot tub?* *

TREVOR
Yeah, potentially, *I guess.* If we
don't do anything about it.

WILLIAM
Whale, that sounds wonderful!!! *

TREVOR
(taken aback)
Ohhh. No. This would be a really
bad thing, William. It would mean
more natural disasters, increased
flooding, and *increasingly* hotter
temperatures!!! *

(then)
And, for you, possibly worse.
Because ocean warming is causing a
Phytoplankton population decline.
(then)
And, Phytoplankton are **the key** to
most ocean life. At the very bottom
of the food chain. Below even
krill. *

Joe Brogie Voice we hear -- (a la Toy Story) "The Keyyyy".

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/7187/warming-ocean-slows-phytoplankton-growth> *

WILLIAM
(salivating)
Ahhh. Krill. I love Krill.

TREVOR

Well, get this. If Phytoplankton suddenly disappear, so do the Krill. *And, if the Krill disappear.*

*
*

WILLIAM

Oh shit! Trevor! No, I can't die. What can I do to stop this?

*
*

TREVOR

Well... Good thing you asked...

*

Trevor smiles for a beat as a white board slides into frame.

Text will be superimposed onto the white board that matches the points Trevor presents.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

(then)

Well for one, we can responsibly plant trees to clean up carbon dioxide through a process known as photosynthesis. ****GFX (coming next week)****

*
*
*
*

(then)

Secondly, carpooling and ride sharing are great ways to cut down on our emissions on the day-to-day.

*

(then)

Thirdly, electricity accounts for 33% of all carbon emissions**, and we can limit our electricity consumption by switching over to LED bulbs, unplugging idle electronics, or by switching to solar power energy alternatives.

*
*

*
*

****DING -- SUPER: ACCORDING TO EPA, 2017.**

The Chalk Board wipes itself as Trevor looks back to William.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

And, on a national level, we can reduce carbon emissions by passing legislation to create jobs in "green" industries, so we can boost the world economy while curbing climate change at the same time.

*
*
*
*

(then)

Find your representative **here**, or member of parliament **here** if you're a Canadian citizen, and message them directly to see what they are doing to help advocate for positive environmental change.

*
*
*

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

*

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/en/contact-us>

*

WILLIAM

Wow. That's a lot to absorb,
Trevor. My flippers got pruny
thinking about it.

*

*

TREVOR

It's a lot. But, the first step to
all of this is understanding the
issue as-is, and learning how we
can work to solve it on our day-to-
day. So that we can make the earth
of tomorrow a better pla---(!)

*

*

THE FEED CUTS. We lose signal as television static covers the
frame for a beat. We then regain signal, now at--

EXT. BEACH - SUNSET

The sun begins to set as we look toward the ocean. Washed up
on the sand is Future Tordjman, covered in algae that latches
onto his spacesuit.

Future Tordjman begins to come to his senses, looking around
and inspecting the boardwalk in the distance.

Future Tordjman slowly stands up. He dusts off sand, spotting
a BEACH BUM, playing hackey sack by himself in the distance.

FUTURE TORDJMAN

(yelling out)

Hey! Hey, you!

BEACH BUM turns to Future Tordjman, taken aback, but also
kinda fucking with the look. He *stone-headedly* nods.

BEACH BUM

Sup, Buzz?

FUTURE TORDJMAN

What year is it?

BEACH BUM

It's twenty-twenty, Man!

*

We hold on Future Tordjman, feeling accomplished. He nods for
a beat, then joyfully smirks, as we-- **CUT TO BLACK.**

*

END OF EPISODE

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