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FILM

Imaginary Films: Sci-Fi Movies That Didn't Make It

A list of science fiction projects Hollywood somehow missed out on

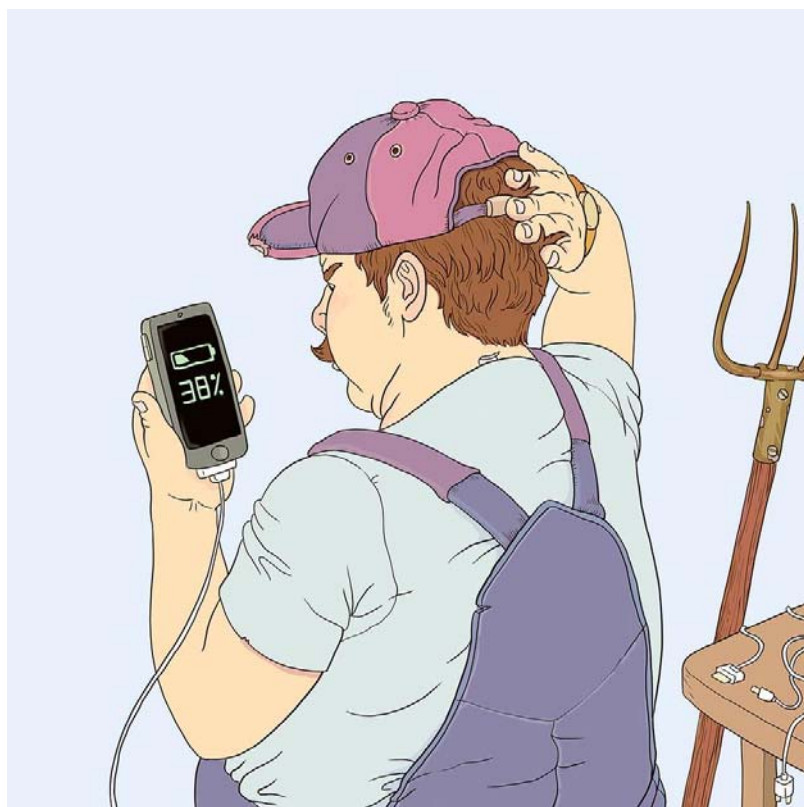


ILLUSTRATION: ZIJUN LI

By Don Steinberg

May 5, 2016 12:39 pm ET

As the summer season begins its annual asteroid shower of otherworldly stories, a list of projects that the Hollywood studios may want to consider:

THE FOURTH SENSE

A girl is born with the mysterious ability to know what any moment in history smelled like.

BLACK WATER

A strange AM radio discovered in the attic allows young Emma to transport herself into the alternative realities of Doobie Brothers songs.

UNSEEABLE

Banished from the college faculty for his odd experiments, a vengeful professor develops a way to turn himself invisible—but decides to stay visible after people keep accidentally bumping into him.

TIME COMMANDER

An obsessed inventor spends years building a time machine that allows him to travel back only the amount of time it took him to build the machine.

CONTROL-C

A geneticist fearing death uploads his brain to a computer to clone himself, but he mistakenly drops the brain file into the “corporate documents” folder, unleashing a demon with the head of a man and the body of a memo.

TERMINATOR 6: RISE OF THE FAX MACHINES

Videotape recorders, rotary dial phones, and other forsaken analog electronics devices unite in a plot to undermine the digital revolution.

38 PERCENT

After a freak electrical storm, a rural farmer’s cellphone is always at 38 percent battery life, no matter how much he uses or charges it.

SPOILER ALERT

A psychic who can see further into the future every day becomes a threat when she soon will see how the world will end. Government agents scramble to silence her before she spoils the ending for everyone.

SPACEWARP

On a mission to save Earth, four astronauts travel 152 million light years through a wormhole, only to wind up back exactly where they started, disappointed but closer friends than before.

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