

UNREAL Engine 5 book sits open next to him. A single goldfish swims around in a small bowl with a Spiderman figure at bottom. iPhone Alarm buzzes waking Charlie.

CHARLIE

(looking at the fish)

Whadya think Mary Jane? I should still have time, right?

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**EXT. COMIC BOOK STORE - MORNING**

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**SUPER: 15 YEARS LATER**

Gum-ball machines outside the store. The sign is faded by the sun. Torn edges of old posters blow gently in the wind.

GARY and WYATT (both 10) hold their bikes as they stare at the store front. They speak in an excited, child-like rhythm.

WYATT

You ever been in there?

GARY

No way, I heard, the guy, who owns the place, he's like a war criminal who built an atomic bomb for Soviet Russia.

WYATT

I heard he was a Nazi, and in the **BACK ROOM**, there's a time machine.

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GARY

I heard, he turns into a vampire. And I know it's true 'cause Chad Finkelman saw him disappear into thin air.

WYATT

Vampires can't vanish.

VOICE (O.S.)

Who said vampires can't vanish?

The kids slowly turn, to see CHARLIE (now 29) towering over them - they scream and scatter. Charlie laughs.

He reaches above the door to grab a KEY. Unlocks the door and returns the key to it's hiding place.